KCDX3409
KC DELUXE
賭博覇王伝 零ゼロ ギャンキ編
8
福本伸行
講談社

9784063768091
1929979005436
雑誌 46309-09
ISBN978-4-06-376809-1
C9979 ¥543E (0)
週刊少年マガジンKCDX
講談社
定価：本体543円（税別）

賭博覇王伝 零ゼロ ギャンキ編 ZERO

喜十郎が俺達に求めているのは閃き!!

ZERO

NOBUYUKI FUKUMOTO PRESENTS

福本伸行作品

絶賛好評発売中!

賭博覇王伝 零　全8巻
賭博覇王伝 零 ギャン鬼編 ①～
賭博堕天録カイジ 全13巻
賭博堕天録カイジ 和也編 ①～
賭博黙示録カイジ 全13巻
賭博破戒録カイジ 全13巻

Cover Design　INATOMI KEN(RAIZIN)

KCDX3409
KC DELUXE

賭博覇王伝 ゼロ ギャン鬼編 8

福本伸行

賭博覇王伝ゼロ

零

ギャン鬼編

GYANKI

8

福本伸行

NOBUYUKI FUKUMOTO PRESENTS

目次

第62話 探索 3
第63話 身辺 23
第64話 小屋 45
第65話 急務 67
第66話 救助 87
第67話 符号 107
第68話 息吹 129
第69話 待望 151
第70話 暗闇 171

NOBUYOKI FUKUMOTO PRESENTS

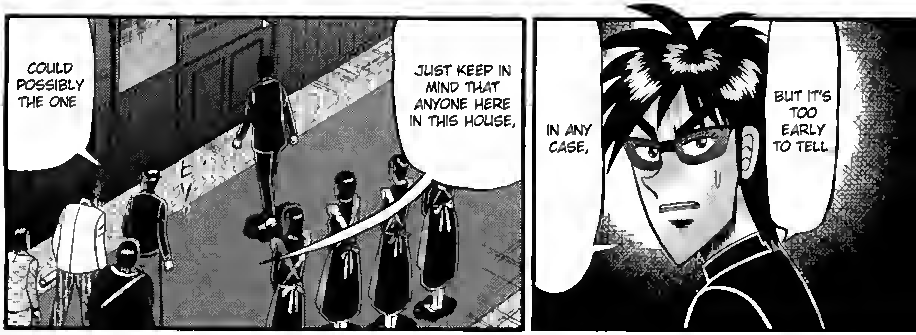
8

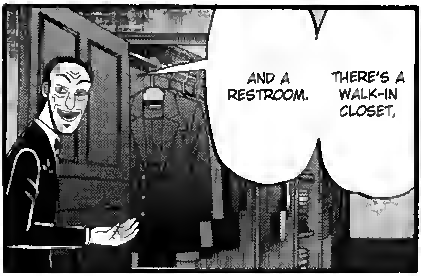
第62話 探索
Chapter 62 Investigation

WELL... I CAN'T DENY THAT POSSIBILITY 100%,
BY SECRETLY BRINGING KIJUROU HIS FOOD...
YOU KNOW, THE GUY YOU SAID THAT MUST BE ABETTING THE REAL CRIMINAL,
COULD HE BE THE ONE?
IT'D BE HARD FOR SOMEONE LIKE HIM TO SECRETLY CARRY OUT A TASK FOR 3 YEARS WITHOUT ANYONE FINDING OUT...
SO HIS DUTIES INVOLVE MANAGING THE OTHER WORKERS HERE.
HE'S IN CHARGE OF MAINTAINING THIS HOUSE,
BUT IT'S PROBABLY NOT HIM.
OH...
YES?
MR. KAGEYAMA.

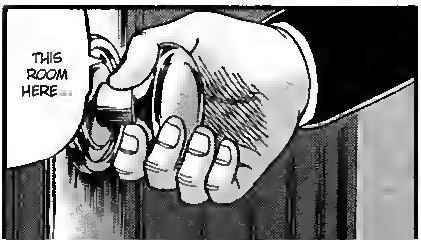
AH, YES.
WORKING HERE IN THIS MANSION?
ARE THESE ALL THE PEOPLE,
HOLD ON...
PARDON ME,
AH-
SO WE GET BY WITH JUST THE 5 OF US..
THERE HASN'T BEEN MUCH WORK TO DO OTHER THAN REGULAR MAINTENANCE,
EVER SINCE MASTER KIJUROU WENT MISSING,
THIS IS EVERY-BODY
RIGHT NOW,
HE'S PROBABLY SOMEWHERE AROUND THE BOG.
AND WHERE IS HE NOW?
THERE'S ONE MORE, THE GARDENER, MR. YOKOYAMA.

THERE'S A FEW SHRINES AND GRAVES NEAR THE BOG,
SO HE GOES OUT THERE TO CUT THE GRASS AND PICK THE WEEDS FROM TIME TO TIME.
Z-ZERO!
Y-YOU RECKON HE'S THE ONE!?
CER-TAINLY SOUNDS A LITTLE SUSPI-CIOUS,


BUT IT'S TOO EARLY TO TELL.
IN ANY CASE,
JUST KEEP IN MIND THAT ANYONE HERE IN THIS HOUSE,
COULD POSSIBLY THE ONE


AND A RESTROOM.
THERE'S A WALK-IN CLOSET,

BUT IT'S LIKELY HE OR SHE HAS A TIGHT-LIP AND WON'T BE SPILLING ANY SECRETS SO EASILY.
FROM THE ENTRANCE WAY


THIS ROOM HERE...

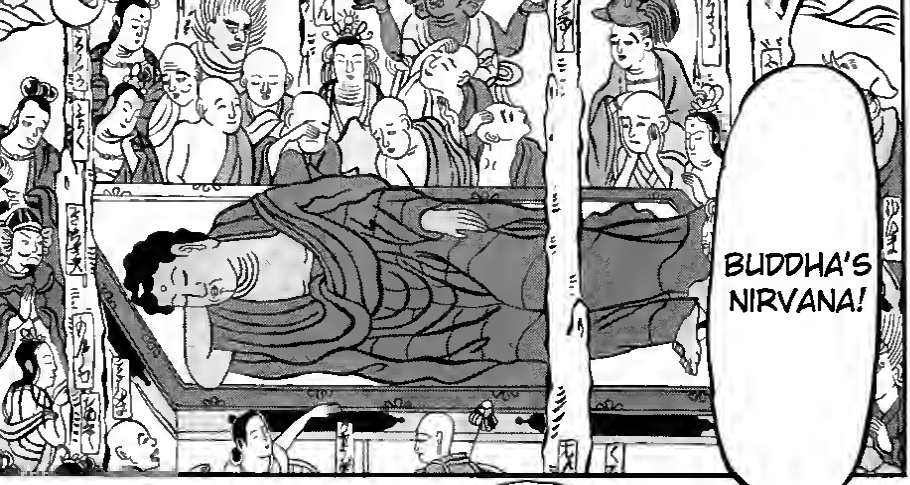
IS THE LIVING ROOM!

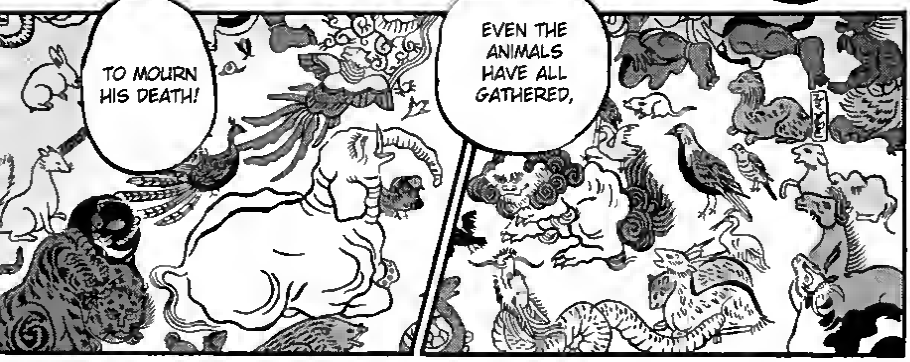
ZERO, LOOK!
Z-
YES...

THIS IS...
OUT OF ALL THE PAINTINGS OF BUDDHA,

AH!

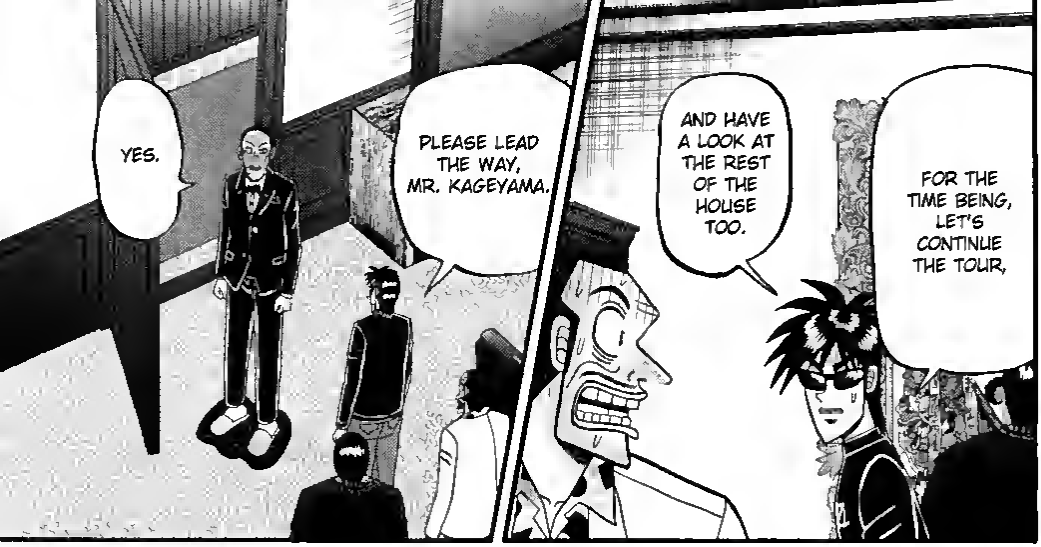
ONE OF THE MOST ICONIC SCENES...
HIS ASCENSION TO NIRVANA ON HIS DEATHBED.

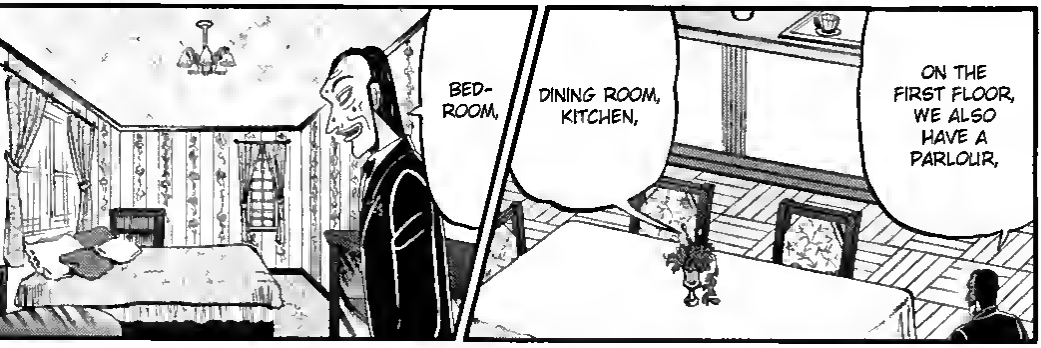




AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS

THIS HAS GOTTA BE A HINT!
OR AT LEAST SOME SORT OF SIGN THAT SAYS THIS HOUSE IS WHERE WE SHOULD BE LOOKING AROUND IN!
BUT WHERE?
SOME-WHERE IN THIS HOUSE,
IS SOME SORT OF SECRET DOORWAY THAT LEADS TO WHERE KIJUROU IS!
I CAN SENSE IT!
CALM DOWN, SUEZAKI


YES.
PLEASE LEAD THE WAY, MR. KAGEYAMA.
AND HAVE A LOOK AT THE REST OF THE HOUSE TOO.
FOR THE TIME BEING, LET'S CONTINUE THE TOUR,


BED-ROOM,
DINING ROOM, KITCHEN,
ON THE FIRST FLOOR, WE ALSO HAVE A PARLOUR,

AND A JAPANESE-STYLE ROOM.
BATH-ROOM,
SINCE THIS MANSION HAS NO BASEMENT
LET US HEAD...
.....

HERE, WE HAVE A REST-ROOM,
UPSTAIRS TO THE 2ND FLOOR!
4 GUEST ROOMS, WHICH MANY YEARS AGO,
WERE USED AS ROOMS FOR THE CHILDREN AND A HOBBY ROOM.
AND HERE...

IS THE BOOK STORAGE ROOM!
WHOA!
A FREAKIN' LIBRARY? TALK ABOUT BEING RICH...
世界百科事典
地球博
日本百科事典

THOUGH THE BOOKS HERE ARE NORMALLY CATEGO-RIZED ACCORDING TO THE GENRE AND SUBJECT.
FOR BOOKS THAT THE MASTER HAS FULLY READ,
.....
000
HE ARRANGED THEM IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER.
THE MASTER SAYS IT'S MUCH EASIER FOR HIM TO FIGURE OUT WHERE THE BOOKS ARE,
WHEN ARRANGED THAT WAY...
I SEE...
SO THE BOOKS HERE ON THE LEFT WHICH AREN'T SORTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER,
ARE BOOKS THAT HE HASN'T READ YET...
古典デザイン図鑑
III
IV
V
VI

WHILE ALL THE BOOKS HERE ON THIS SIDE
ARE ONES HE HAS READ.
HMM, I SEE...
MOST OF THE UNREAD BOOKS ARE DICTIONARIES, MAPS, AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS...
BOOKS THAT HE MIGHT NEED IN CASE HE EVER NEEDED TO LOOK ANYTHING UP.
世界百科事
地球博物学
地図
学園館
4
WELL, THIS CONCLUDES THE TOUR OF THE 2ND FLOOR.
HUH?

HERE ON THE 2ND FLOOR?
ISN'T THERE STILL ONE MORE ROOM,
W-WAIT!
I'VE PREPARED SOME COFFEE AND CAKE FOR YOU TO ENJOY DOWNSTAIRS IN THE PARLOUR.
IT'S MERELY A ROOM IN THE CORNER OF THE HOUSE,
. . . . .
Oo.

IF SUCH A THING EXISTED HERE IN THIS MANSION,
SO THERE'S NO POSSIBILITY OF A HIDDEN ENTRANCE THERE TO A SECRET ROOM OR ANYTHING OF THAT SORT.
EVEN SO...
MR KAGE-YAMA,
IT WOULD MOST LIKELY BE ON THE 1ST FLOOR.

THAT LAST ROOM,
IS THE ROOM I MOST WANT TO SEE IN THIS ENTIRE MANSION.
I'M AFRAID I CAN'T JUST NOT TAKE A LOOK.
ESPE-CIALLY SINCE,
IT'S KIJUROU'S STUDY, ISN'T IT?
HIS STUDY?
SO PLEASE.
SHOW ME THE ROOM.
IF HE'S EVEN GOT A PERSONAL LIBRARY,
I CAN'T IMAGINE HIM NOT HAVING A STUDY.
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
IT MAY VERY WELL...

HOLD THE KEY TO DECIPHERING,
KIJU-ROU'S MESS-AGE!
HIS PERSONAL STUDY,
SHOULD BE THE ROOM THAT GIVES THE STRONGEST IMPRESSION OF WHAT KIND OF MAN HE WAS!
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.

DID PRESIDENT TAKAMITSU ORDER YOU TO DO THIS?
.....
AND OUTSIDERS ARE-
BUT I'M AFRAID THIS IS A MATTER OF PRIVACY,
EXCUSE ME
I, UMM...
AAAH!
SIR! NO, WAIT!

AHH!
KEE KEE!

IT WASN'T MY POPS!
TATSUKI!
DAMN THIS BRAT!
HE COULDN'T STOP YOU.
I ALREADY FIGURED,
BUT,
IT WAS ME WHO ASKED HIM NOT TO LET YOU IN FOR THE TIME BEING.
INVESTI-GATING.
SO THEY'RE CUR-RENTLY WAY OUT THERE,
"TREASURE SWAMP"
MY POPS AND THE OTHERS ARE FIXATED ON THAT PART OF THE MESSAGE,
HEH HEH

AND... IT LOOKS LIKE I'M ON THE RIGHT TRACK.
SO I DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE ALONE.
I WANTED TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE STUDY FIRST.
ME, ON THE OTHER HAND...
THERE'S A HUGE HINT HERE!
ZERO!
AHH!

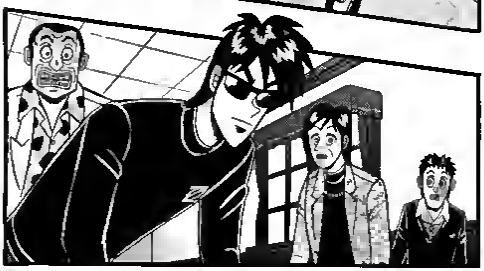
Chapter 63 Surroundings

賭博覇王伝
ゼロ
零
ギャンキ編
GYANKI
ZERO

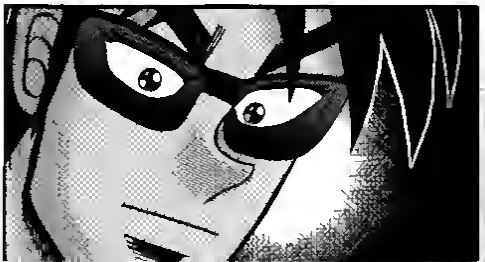
AHHH!
ざわ…
ざわ…
ざわ…
ﾅﾅﾅ…
W-WHAT HINT!?
KEE KEE KEE
W-WAIT …
DON'T TELL ME YOU CAME HERE FIRST,
SO YOU COULD KEEP THE HINT ALL TO YOUR-SELF.

KEE KEE KEE
O-OR TRY TO DESTROY IT...!
THE HINT I'M TALKING ABOUT ISN'T SOME-THING THAT A PERSON COULD TAKE AWAY.
DON'T WORRY, DON'T WORRY.
I'VE GOTTA GO FOLLOW UP ON MY NEW LEAD!
BUT IN ANY CASE,
ALREADY UNDER-STANDS THAT MUCH.
I'M SURE ZERO,
SEE YA!
KEE KEE

KEE KEE
SINCE I'M ALL DONE WITH THIS ROOM, FEEL FREE TO TAKE YOUR TIME WHILE I GO ON AHEAD!
WELL.
バタン
HUH?
CALM DOWN.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT KIND OF HINT HE MEANT, ZERO!?
WHAT'S HE TALKIN' ABOUT?
W-WHA?



東ア
日本名跡
日本名跡
日本名跡
日本名跡
日本名跡
日本名跡
日本名跡
1
2
3
4
5
6
7



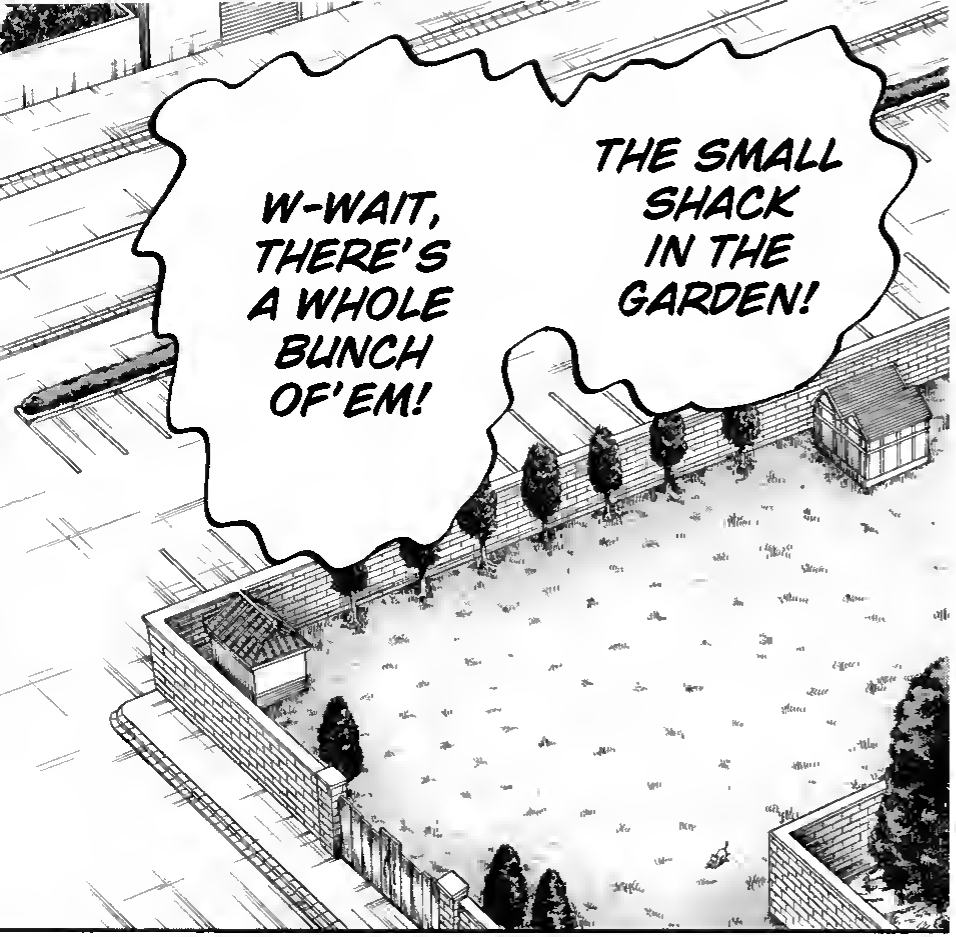
ZERO...
WHAT IS IT?

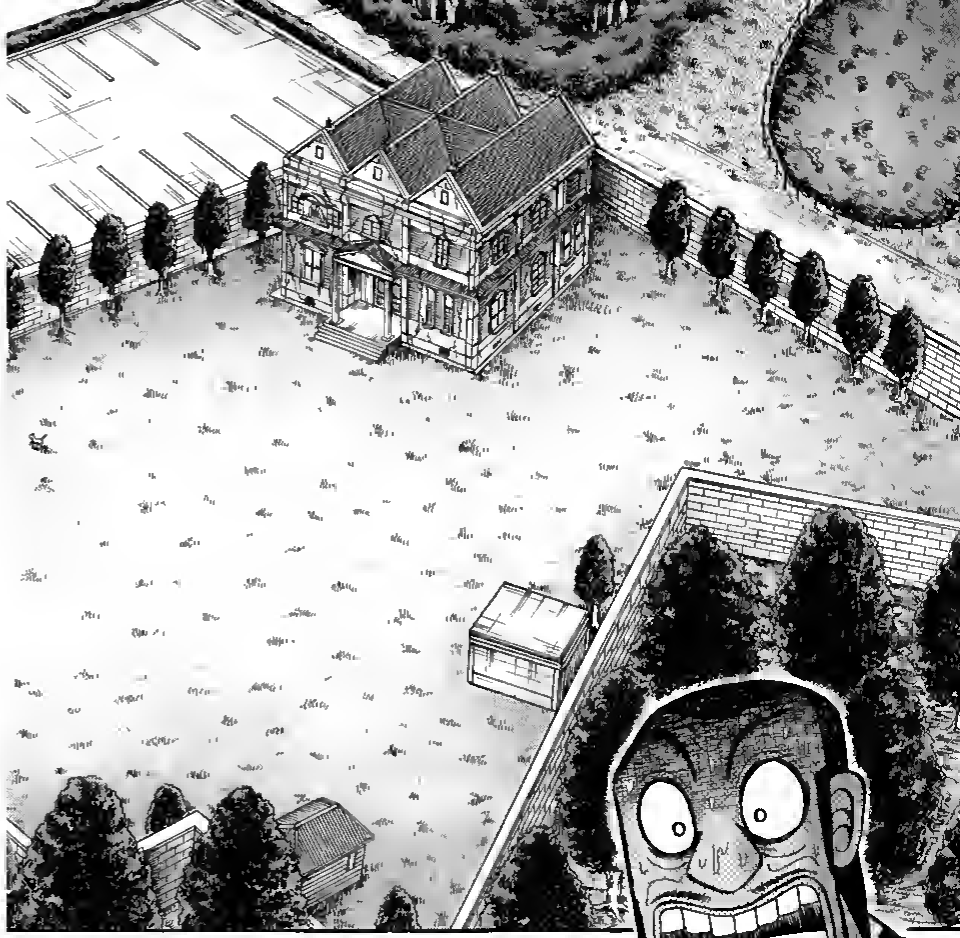
GET AN IDEA OF WHAT THE HINT TATSUKI FOUND IS!?
D-DID YOU...
ZERO?
Z-ZERO?
IT'S THIS!

HUH?
TATSUKI WAS TALKING ABOUT.
THIS VIEW FROM THE WINDOW!

SUEZAKI, IF YOU WERE TO BUILD SUCH A ROOM,
WHERE WOULD YOU BUILD IT?
I, UHH...
TO BUILD IT SOMEWHERE CLOSE BY SO YOU CAN FREQUENTLY CHECK UP ON IT?
WOULDN'T YOU WANT,
HUH?
AND CONSIDERING THE STUDY IS THE ROOM WHERE YOU WOULD SPEND MOST OF YOUR TIME...

THE THING THAT WE'RE ALL SEARCHING FOR,
WHA?
TO BE THE VERY ROOM KIJUROU WOULD HIDE HIS FORTUNES IN...!
IT WAS ORIGI-NALLY INTENDED,
THE SECRET ROOM WHERE KIJUROU IS BEING CONFINED...
AHH!
AHHH!
IT'S RIGHT OUT HERE!
I-IT'S...
THAT'S IT!


W-WAIT, THERE'S A WHOLE BUNCH OF'EM!
THE SMALL SHACK IN THE GARDEN!



AHH!
TO SUIT THE MASTER'S ECLECTIC TASTES
OH CRAP!

EACH ROOM CONTAINS VERY DIF-FERENT THINGS,
HUH?

THOSE ARE THE MASTER'S SPECIAL HOBBY ROOMS.
W-WHAT ARE THOSE!?

ZERO! TATSUKI IS...!

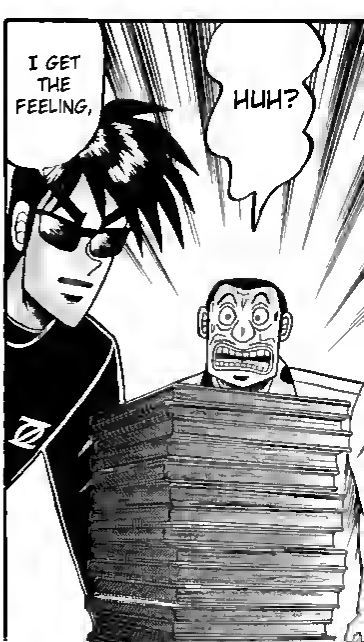
DON'T WORRY.
ZERO!
ONE OF THE ROOMS!
HE'S ALREADY GOING IN,

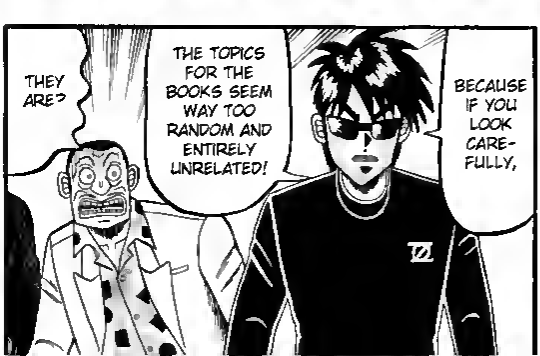
Robby Room
Treasure Room
CONNECTED BY SOME SECRET ENTRANCE...
WAS IN ONE OF THOSE ROOMS OUTSIDE,
EVEN IF THE SECRET ROOM,

IS MERELY TOURING THE HOBBY ROOMS,
JUST TO CHECK IF THERE ARE ANY NOTABLE FEATURES INSIDE...
TATSUKI,
ALL IN ALL,
THAT YOU COULD FIND SO EASILY BY LOOKING AROUND.
IT'S NOT SOME-THING,
OH...
NOR HOW TO FIND THE SECRET ENTRANCE YET!
HE DOESN'T KNOW WHICH ROOM IS THE ONE,
BUT IF YOU ASK ME,
TATSUKI SEEMS TO HAVE OVERLOOKED THIS,
THIS..
THIS IS WHAT ATTRACTS MY ATTEN-TION THE MOST!
HUH?
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY,

STACK OF BOOKS ON THE DESK!

TO SEARCH UP ON SOME-THING!
KIJUROU DIDN'T JUST TAKE THESE OUT,


I GET THE FEELING,
HUH?


THEY ARE?
THE TOPICS FOR THE BOOKS SEEM WAY TOO RANDOM AND ENTIRELY UNRELATED!
BECAUSE IF YOU LOOK CARE-FULLY,

LET ME SEE!
HM...
WHA?
60% OF YOUR BODY WEIGHT IS WATER...
INTERNAL MEDICINE,
NEUTRON PARTICLE PHYSICS,
BIRTH OF PLANET EARTH, AGE OF THE MASSES, TIBET RESEARCH VOL. 1,
YOU'RE RIGHT! THE TOPICS ARE ALL UNRELATED!

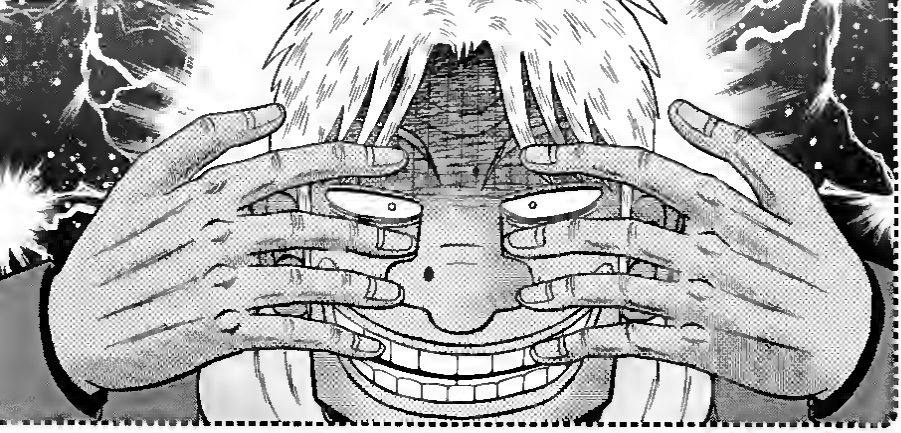
WELL, THE MASTER WAS A MAN WITH A STRONG CURIOSITY AND A THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE.
I CAN UNDER-STAND BEING CURIOUS BUT,
WOULD AN ALMOST 80 YEAR OLD MAN REALLY NEED TO READ...
INTRODUCTION TO TAEK-WONDO, INTRO-DUCTION TO NUNCHUCKS,
AND, UHH..
LET'S DRIVE A MOTOR-CYCLE?
I MEAN, C'MON!
INTRO TO TACHI-KAWA?
SERI-OUSLY?
THE AGE OF CHIBA!?
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO GO TO CHIBA!
THE CHINESE THREAT?
THE SOUTH AMERICAN THREAT?
I CAN SORT OF UNDER-STAND THESE BUT..

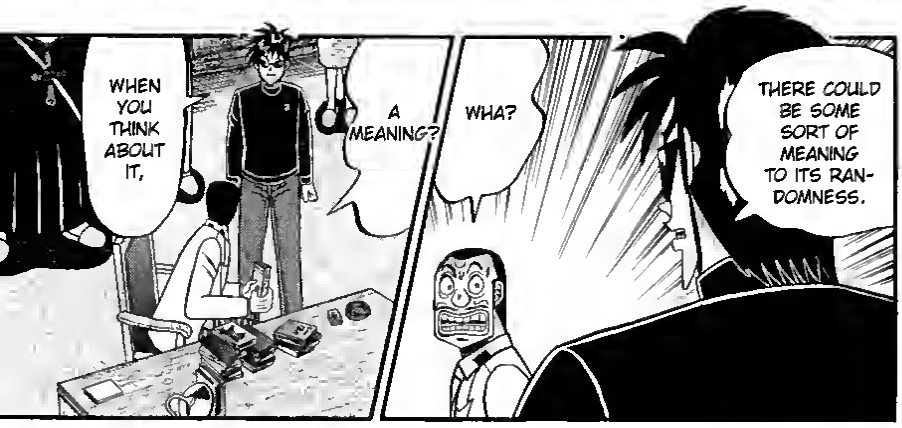
AHHH!
AND...
OH COME ON! WHO THE HELL EVEN CARES ABOUT CHIBA!?
THE CHIBA THREAT!?
千葉の脅威
WHAT THE HELL?
7 CONDITIONS FOR A SOON-TO-BE WIFE!?
妻になる七つの条件
AND WHAT'S THIS?
HUH?
WAS HE THINKING ABOUT REMARRIAGE?
WHAT,
THIS IS A HUGE MESS!
ZERO!
WHERE DO YOU EVEN FIND THESE BOOKS!?
THE HELL?
When the Lights Don't Come On: The Tokyo Electric Company Story
原子力資料局

HOW CAN ANYBODY KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON IN KIJUROU'S MIND!?
. . . . . .

THE BOOKS SEEM ALMOST TOO RANDOM.
YES, I KNOW.

BUT AT THE SAME TIME...




WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT,
A MEANING?
WHA?
THERE COULD BE SOME SORT OF MEANING TO ITS RANDOMNESS.

THEY WERE TAKEN OUT FOR SOME OTHER PURPOSE!
DON'T SEEM LIKE THEY WERE TAKEN OUT TO BE READ.
IN THAT CASE, ISN'T IT SAFE TO ASSUME...

BUT THESE BOOKS,
YOU NORMALLY TAKE OUT BOOKS TO READ THEM.

WHA!?
THAT THEY WERE DELIBERATELY LEFT OUT HERE?
IN SHORT,
IT'S A KEY!
仏陀の最期看取る宝沼で
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
A KEY TO DECIPHERING THE CRYPTIC MESSAGE!

AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS

Chapter 64 Shacks
第64話 小屋

WHAAA?
THAT'S CRAZY!
AND HE PROBABLY TOOK THEM OUT FROM THE BOOKSHELF, A WHOLE BUNCH AT A TIME,
A RANDOM COLLECTION OF STUFF HE WAS INTERESTED IN.
THESE BOOKS ARE JUST,
AND THEN LEFT IT ON HIS DESK,
SO HE COULD READ ONE WHENEVER HE FELT LIKE IT!
IN OTHER WORDS

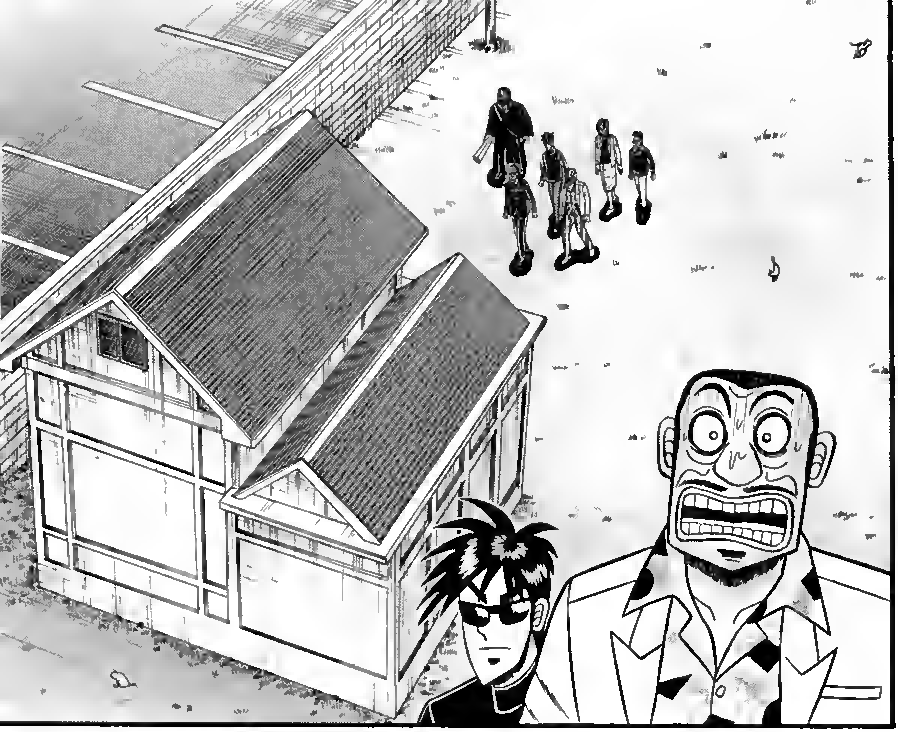
ZERO'S OVER-THINKING IT!
THERE WAS THAT WHOLE WILD GOOSE CHASE ON MT. FUJI,
BEFORE GETTING HERE,
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
IF SO...
HAVING A SLUMP?
COULD ZERO BE,
AND THAT PLACE IN CHIBA THAT ZERO LED US ON...
THEN I HAVE TO ..
くわっ。。

I HAVE TO TAKE THE LEAD!
I'VE GOT TO GUIDE ZERO WITH ALL OF MY ADULT WISDOM!
UMM...
LISTEN ZERO,
WE SHOULD TAKE THINGS ONE STEP AT A TIME!
RIGHT NOW, THE ONE DEFINITE LEAD WE HAVE,
ARE THE SUSPICIOUS SHACKS OUTSIDE!
SO IT MAKES SENSE THAT WE SHOULD CHECK THEM O-
AHHH!
T...
TATSUKI'S ALREADY COMING OUT OF THE FIRST ONE!
ZERO! WE'VE GOTTA HURRY!
BEFORE WE FALL EVEN MORE BEHIND!
.....
THAT MEANS,
HE'S ALREADY MOVING ONTO THE 2ND ONE!

ZERO!
FINE, FINE.
YOU DO HAVE A POINT, SUEZAKI.
WE SHOULD AT LEAST CHECK OUT THOSE ROOMS TO BEGIN WITH...
YES, EXACTLY!

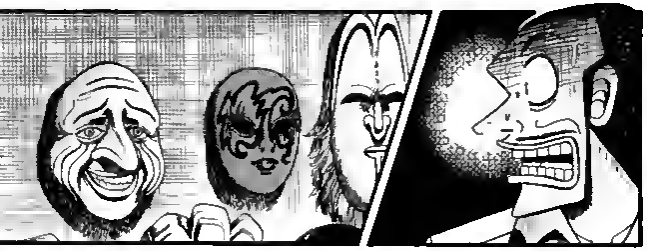
SO COME ON, ZERO! LET'S HURRY OUT THERE!
ユラ
ハーハー

FROM THE STUDY, THERE ARE EXACTLY 4 SHACKS
WHICH ARE VISIBLE!
FIRST...
LET'S START WITH THE CLOSEST ONE TO OUR RIGHT
WE CAN THEN CHECK OUT THE REST,
MOVING IN A COUNTER-CLOCKWISE FASHION
①
②
③
④



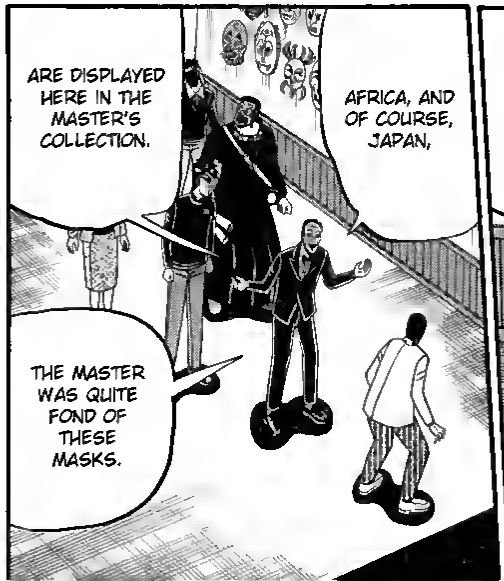
ALRIGHT!
THIS IS THE FIRST ONE!
AH-
HUH?
IT'S...
IT'S SO DARK I CAN'T SEE WHAT'S WHAT!
ALLOW ME TO TURN ON THE LIGHTS
THIS ROOM

IS THE ROOM OF MASKS!



TO EACH THEIR OWN, SIR.
EVEN RELAX SUR-ROUNDED BY THESE THINGS?
HOW CAN SOMEONE...

WHA?
HE WOULD OFTEN RELAX HERE AND DRINK WHILE GAZING AT HIS COLLECTION.


ARE DISPLAYED HERE IN THE MASTER'S COLLECTION.
AFRICA, AND OF COURSE, JAPAN,
THE MASTER WAS QUITE FOND OF THESE MASKS.

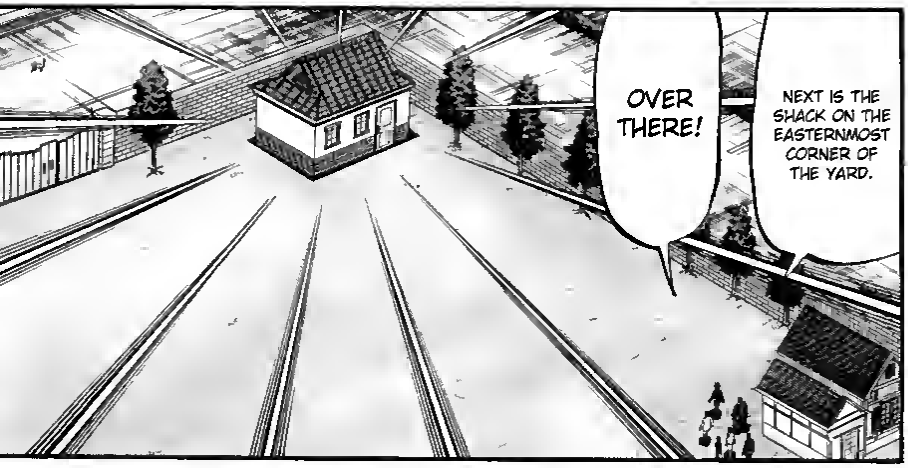
MASKS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD... SOUTH AMERICA, EUROPE,
WHAAA?

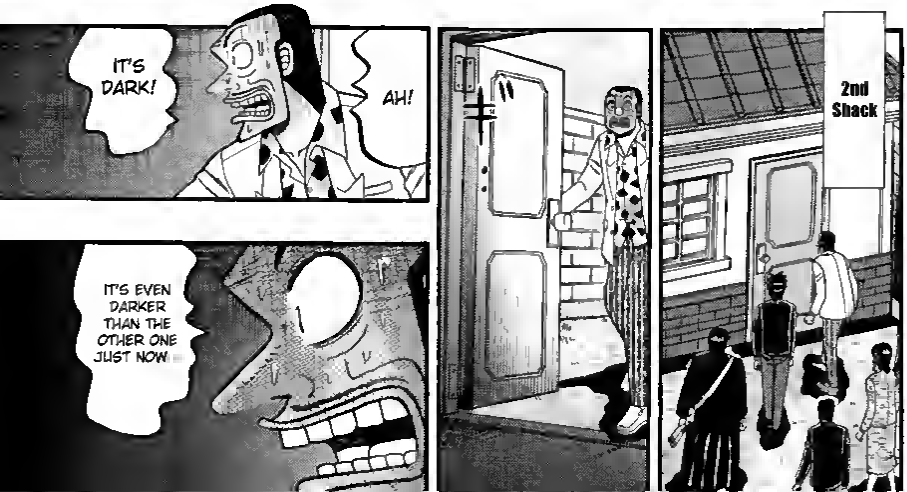
EVEN IF THERE WERE A SECRET ROOM BELOW,
THERE'S NO WAY IT'D BE BUILT,
I SHOULDN'T HAVE EVEN TRIED.

NO...
CAN YOU HEAR SOMETHING!?

IN ANY CASE. .
SO THAT SOMEONE UPSTAIRS COULD EASILY HEAR SOMEONE BELOW.

WE STILL HAVE THREE ROOMS LEFT.
LET'S CONTINUE LOOKING AROUND.


OVER THERE!
NEXT IS THE SHACK ON THE EASTERNMOST CORNER OF THE YARD.


IT'S DARK!
AH!
IT'S EVEN DARKER THAN THE OTHER ONE JUST NOW.
2nd Shack

AHH!
ONCE THE DOOR CLOSES!
IT'S PITCH BLACK,
T-THIS ROOM ISN'T JUST DARK!
ALLOW ME TO TURN ON THE LIGHTS
THE LIGHT FROM OUTSIDE DOESN'T PENETRATE AT ALL!

!?
HUH?
WHA...
WHAT IS THIS ROOM?
THIS IS THE INCENSE ROOM, SIR.
INCENSE ROOM?
THE MASTER WOULD LIGHT VARIOUS TYPES OF INCENSE HE COLLECTED FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD,

OHHH FOR THE LOVE OF...!
THIS ROOM IS DESIGNED TO BE PITCH BLACK.
WHERE THE BODY CAN FOCUS ON SMELLING THE INCENSE.
TO CREATE A MORE CALMING ATMOSPHERE,
DAMN RICH PEOPLE!
YOU CAN NEVER UNDERSTAND THEM!
THIS IS THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LIGHT.
YES.
IS THIS THE BRIGHTEST THIS ROOM CAN GET?
MR. KAGEYAMA,
UGH...

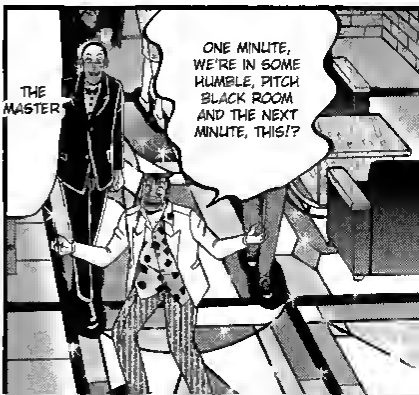
AND WHAT IS THIS, A TATAMI?
WHY IS THERE A STAIR HERE?
OWWW!
AGHH!
WHY'D HE MAKE IT SO DAMN EASY TO TRIP OVER?
IT'S TOO DARK TO SEE ANYTHING!
ZERO, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
ANOTHER DARK ROOM?
AH!
WE NEED LIGHT! WE NEED LIGHT!
I'LL SWITCH ON THE LIGHTS
AS YOU WISH
3rd Shack

W-W-WHA!?
THIS IS THE STAINED-GLASS ROOM.
THE LIGHTS IN THIS ROOM ARE INSTALLED BEHIND THE STAINED-GLASS PICTURES,
WHOAA!
SO YOU CAN APPRECIATE THEIR BEAUTY EVEN AT NIGHT.

AHHH!

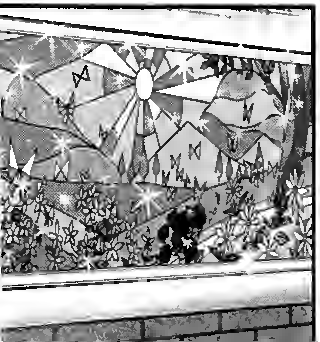
BUT THIS PLACE IS SO SHINY AND SPARKLING,
Y-YEAH, I GUESS THEY'RE PRETTY...
I FEEL LIKE I'M TRAPPED INSIDE A JEWEL!
TALK ABOUT A MAN OF EXTREMES!

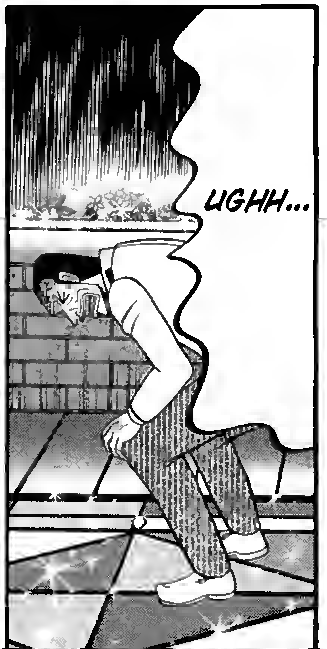
WELL I SURE AS HELL CAN'T RELAX!
ALSO LIKED TO RELAX HERE WITH A DRINK WHILE SITTING HERE IN THIS ROOM...


THE MASTER
ONE MINUTE, WE'RE IN SOME HUMBLE, PITCH BLACK ROOM AND THE NEXT MINUTE, THIS!?

FROM ALL THE SHINE AND TWINKLE!
キラ:
キラ:
キラ:
MY EYES ARE FLICK-ERING ON AND OFF CON-STANTLY,
キラ

JUST WHAT IS UP WITH THAT OLD MAN?




UGHH...

ZERO?
WHAT'S WRONG?
SOMETHING CATCH YOUR ATTENTION?
THIS ISN'T LIKE HIM.
HUH?
THIS ROOM DOESN'T FIT WITH THE KIJUROU I KNOW.
I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT IS,
BUT I FEEL,
VERY UNCOM-FORT-ABLE IN THIS ROOM...

第65話 急務
Chapter 65 Urgent Business

Incense Room
Mask Room
THE PREVIOUS TWO ROOMS,
WERE JUST AS UNCOMFORTABLE, IF NOT WORSE!
TO BE HONEST,
YOU'VE LOST ME.

Yamanashi
Umedoira
LIKE THE TIME YOU REALIZED IT WASN'T CHIBA BUT YAMANASHI?
JUST WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY UNCOMFORTABLE ANYWAYS?
ARE YOU SAYING THAT SOMETHING FEELS OFF?
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN, YOU NEED TO BE MORE SPECIFIC...

OH SHUT UP FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, YOU SHOE-SOLE!
WHA?
TRY TO THINK ABOUT IT MORE CONCRE-
IT'S 'CAUSE OF YOUR UGLY, WORN-OUT FACE!
SHOE-SOLE?
HE DOESN'T NEED SOME SMART-ASS EDISON UP IN HIS GRILL!
AGH!
YOU THINK TELLING ZERO TO THINK THROUGH THINGS MORE SPE-CIFICALLY IS REALLY GOING TO HELP?
WHAAA!
AH..
ALL WE NEED TO DO IS STAND BY SILENTLY AND WATCH OVER HIM!
SO JUST SHUT UP AND LEAVE HIM ALONE!

NO...
SORRY FOR THE FUSS, ZERO.
BUT THAT USELESS SHOE-SOLE WOULDN'T SHUT UP SO I JUST HAD TO TELL HIM OFF...
SUEZAKI HAS A POINT.
LET'S CONTINUE ON.
OVER SOME VAGUE FEELING OF MINE THAT I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHY.
THERE'S NO POINT IN WASTING MORE TIME HERE,
R-
RIGHT!
WE SAW OUTSIDE.
LET'S GO CHECK OUT THE REST OF THE SHACKS,
INSTEAD OF STANDING AROUND HERE,

JUST AS CLEAR-THINKING AS EVER, ZERO!
BLEEHH!
WHAT'RE YOU, G..?
W-WHAT'S UP WITH ALL THESE CATS?
HEY, GET OFFA ME!
SCRAM!
THIS IS IT!
THE 4TH ROOM!
THE FINAL SHACK!
LET'S TAKE A LOOK...

DAYUM!
WHOA!
HOLY MOLY!
THE FINAL ROOM!
AHH!

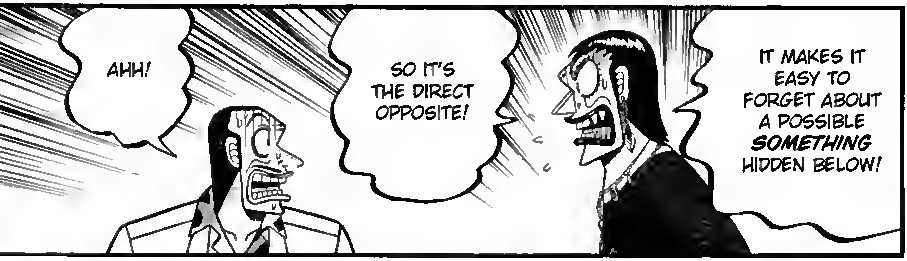
LOOK AT THIS BEAUT!
Train Track and City Diaorama Room

YO, KAGEYAMA! CAN'T YOU GET THIS THING TO RUN-
THIS IS RIGHT UP MY ALLEY!
WE'RE NOT HERE TO PLAY!
NOW THIS I CAN UNDER-STAND!
HAHA!

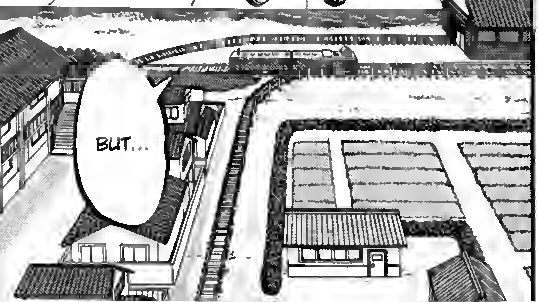
NGH!
TRY TO THINK UP SOMETHING USEFUL TO HELP ZERO!
AND USE YOUR HEAD FOR ONCE!
STOP CAUSING A RUCKUS,
SO,
HM...
THIS ROOM..
I'M THINKING TOO, YOU KNOW!
STOP ASSUMING!
JUST LOOK!
WHAT? WHY NOT!?
THERE'S NO WAY A SECRET ROOM COULD BE HIDDEN BELOW THIS ROOM!
CAN'T BE THE ONE!
GOD, YOU'RE STUPID!
IF THIS FLOOR OPENED UP TO REVEAL AN ENTRANCE TO A ROOM BELOW, THIS WHOLE MODEL-TRAIN SET-UP WOULD BE RUINED!

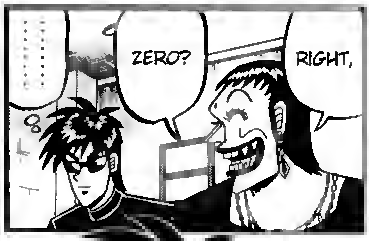
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SOME SWITCH
Secret Door Below
COULD ALLOW THIS WHOLE FLOOR TO BE LOWERED EVENLY
AND REVEAL A HIDDEN DOOR...!
WHA!?
CAN'T YOU EVEN THINK THAT MUCH!?
SO YOU BETTER DAMN WELL BELIEVE,
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A ROOM DESIGNED TO HIDE BILLIONS AND BILLIONS!
IT IS!
OH, LIKE THAT'S POSSIBLE!

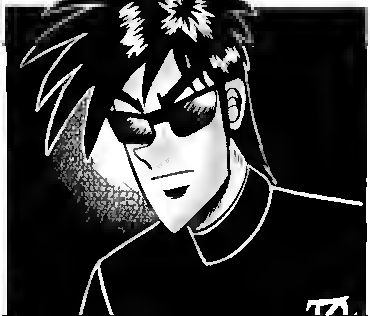
I'D SAY THIS ROOM IS EVEN MORE SUSPI-CIOUS,
IN FACT,
JUST ABOUT ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!
PRECISELY BECAUSE OF THIS TRAIN TRACK MODEL IN THE CENTER!


AHH!
SO IT'S THE DIRECT OPPOSITE!
IT MAKES IT EASY TO FORGET ABOUT A POSSIBLE SOMETHING HIDDEN BELOW!

YES, YOU DO HAVE A POINT, JUNKO.
HMM...


BUT...


ZERO?
RIGHT,



THERE'S NOTHING SIGNIFI-CANTLY WORTH-NOTING!
WHA...?
AND I'M NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT THAT LAST ROOM WITH THE TRAIN. I'M REFERRING TO ALL FOUR ROOMS...
ALL THE ROOMS WERE LIKE THAT! NOT A SINGLE THING IN THOSE ROOMS SEEMED LIKE A DEFINITIVE HINT OR CLUE!

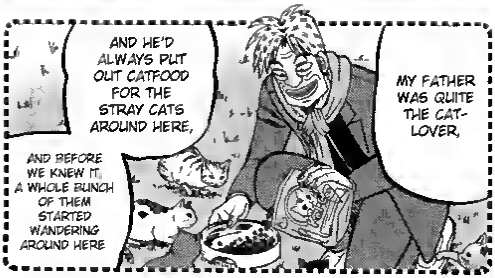
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
TO THE CRYPTIC MESSAGE! NOT A SINGLE LEAD TO DECIPHERING IT!
HAD EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CONNEC-TION,
NONE OF THOSE ROOMS,
CONTAINED A SECRET ENTRANCE TO WHERE KIJUROU IS CONFINED RIGHT NOW...
THAT'S WHY EVEN IF ONE OF THOSE FOUR ROOMS,
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
AH!
IS HIDDEN SOMEWHERE ELSE!
THE REAL KEY TO SOLVING THE MESSAGE,
THOSE ROOMS DON'T HOLD THE KEY!

AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
WE WERE TO TAKE THAT MESSAGE ALMOST LITERALLY,
THEN I SUPPOSE THE HINT WOULD BE HIDDEN SOMEWHERE,
IF...
SOME-WHERE ELSE?
WHA?
THE PRESI-DENT AND HIS OTHER LACKEYS,
THEN WE'VE GOTTA HURRY!
AHH!
IN THE VICINITY OF THE TREASURE SWAMP...!
AHHH!
MADAME!
HUH?
C'MON, ZERO!
HAVE BEEN SEARCHING AROUND THE SWAMP SINCE MORNING!

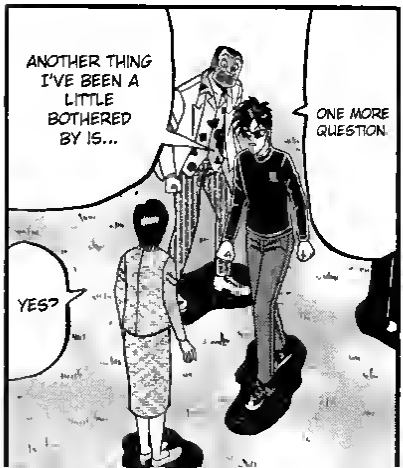
I CAN SEE FOR MYSELF THAT THEY'RE CLIMBING ON YOU,
YES,
WHILE THE CATS ARE INDEED CUTE....
BUT, UHH... WE'RE SORT OF IN A HURRY AND...
UH...
AREN'T THEY SOOO CUTE!
LOOK, THE KITTIES ARE CLIMBING ON TOP OF ME!
W-WHAT'RE YOU DOING, MADAME!?
CHRIST.
SHOE SOLE..
R-RIGHT!
OH, FOR GOD'S SAKE! BE MORE SERIOUS, YOU TWIT!
MA'AM...
Oo
N-NOTHING!
WHAT WAS THAT!?

JUST WHY ARE THERE SO MANY CATS HERE?
OH,
WELL YOU SEE...

I'VE BEEN WONDERING EVER SINCE COMING TO THIS HOUSE BUT...
YES?


MY FATHER WAS QUITE THE CAT-LOVER,
AND HE'D ALWAYS PUT OUT CATFOOD FOR THE STRAY CATS AROUND HERE,
AND BEFORE WE KNEW IT, A WHOLE BUNCH OF THEM STARTED WANDERING AROUND HERE

I SEE...
ZERO! COME ON, WE GOTTA HURRY! WHO CARES ABOUT CATS!?

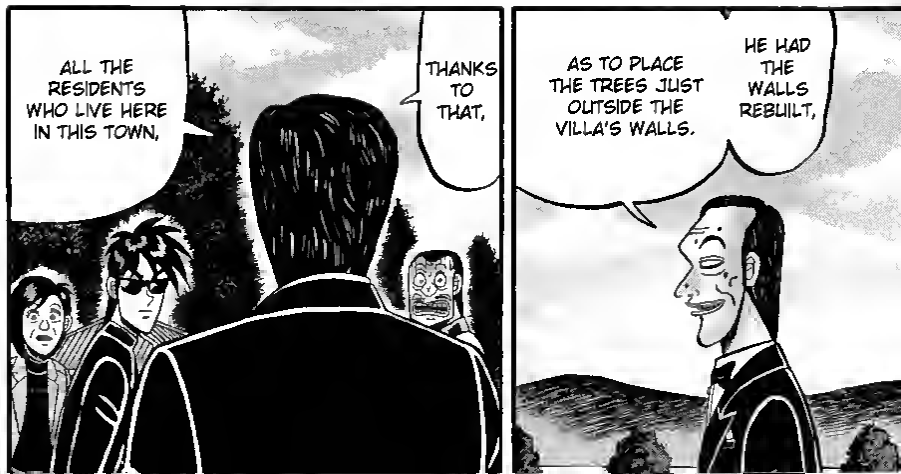

ONE MORE QUESTION
ANOTHER THING I'VE BEEN A LITTLE BOTHERED BY IS...
YES?

AH-

HUH?
IS THERE SOME REASON FOR THAT?
THE WALLS SURROUNDING THIS HOUSE APPEARS TO BE QUITE ZIG-ZAGGED.
I REMEMBER THOSE HUGE TREES WERE A PART OF THIS YARD...
THE WALLS WERE REBUILT, MA'AM.
YOU'RE RIGHT, THEY ARE ZIG-ZAGGED
OH..
BACK WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL,
I WONDER WHEN THAT HAPPENED...

THE LARGE EVER-GREENS YOU SEE JUST OUTSIDE,
PARDON?

THE MASTER SAID IT'D BE A WASTE IF ONLY HIS FAMILY COULD ENJOY THEM.
AS SUCH,
ARE HUNDREDS OF YEARS OLD, SOME BEING EVEN 800 YEARS OLD.
AND SO,


ALL THE RESIDENTS WHO LIVE HERE IN THIS TOWN,
THANKS TO THAT,
AS TO PLACE THE TREES JUST OUTSIDE THE VILLA'S WALLS.
HE HAD THE WALLS REBUILT,

IT'S ALL THANKS TO THE MASTER'S EXCEPTIONAL CONSIDERATION.
CAN TAKE A RELAXING BREAK UNDER THE TREES OUTSIDE.
MR. KAGE-YAMA!
Z-ZERO! WE'VE GOTTA HURRY!
I SEE.
WHAT IS IT?
ハァ
ハァ
ハァ

I... I JUST RECEIVED A NOTICE,
THAT A PERSON'S VOICE NEARBY,
WAS CALLING FOR HELP FROM BELOW!
WHA!?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
W-
WHERE!?
IT'S JUST ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE SANITARIUM...
A voice calling for help...!? From below!?
THERE'S AN OLD WELL THAT'S NO LONGER USED RIGHT BY THE EDGE OF THE FOREST...
ZERO!

IT'S COMPLETELY UNEXPECTED!
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT!
!

BUT...
COMPLETELY SURPASSED MY EXPECTATIONS!
HIS THOUGHT PROCESS,
ONCE AGAIN,
ざわ..
ざわ..
ざわ..
IN ANY CASE...
?...

IT'S JUST NOT NORMAL!
WHERE MANY OF HIS EMPLOYEES GO IN AND OUT EVERYDAY?
RIGHT BY THE SANITARIUM,
DID KIJUROU REALLY BUILD A SECRET ROOM,
HE'S SURPASSED MY EXPECTATIONS!
ZERO!

ざわ・・
ざわ・・
KIJUROU!
ハ!?
ハ!?
ハ!?

ダッ・・・
THANK GOD YOU'RE ALIVE!
!!
KIJUROU!

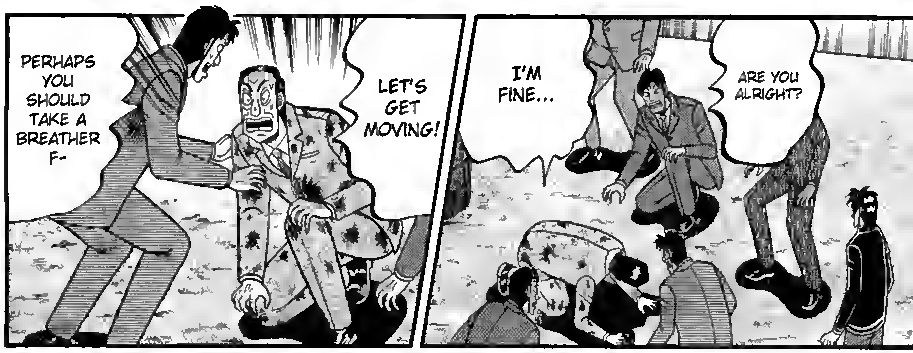
D-DIRECTOR OKAJIMA!
ざわ‥
ざわ‥
REALLY?
YOU FOUND A PERSON BELOW!?
I-IS IT MY FATHER!?
NO...
IT'S JUST DIRECTOR OKAJIMA. EARLIER, HE THOUGHT THIS OLD WELL WAS SUSPICIOUS,
SO HE USED A ROPE TO LOWER HIMSELF DOWN THE WELL.
スポッ
BY PULLING ON THE ROPE THAT WE WEREN'T HOLDING ONTO...
THE DIRECTOR TRIED TO GET BACK UP,
BUT WHILE WE WERE TAKING A SHORT BREAK,
WHA...?
AND SO,
HE ENDED UP GETTING STUCK DOWN BELOW...

WHA!?

M-MY APOLOGIES, SIR...
OKA-JIMA!?
THEN THE PERSON CALLING OUT FOR HELP WAS...
WHAT!?
HUH?
SO...?
.....
OH FOR GOD'S SAKE!
WE'RE LEAVING!
BUT THERE WASN'T PARTICULARLY ANYTHING...
IT WAS DRIED OUT,
UMM, WELL...
WAS THERE ANYTHING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WELL?
AH, TATSUKI...
THE NEXT THING WE'LL SEARCH IS THE MANSION!

KEE KEE
OF NOTE THERE?
DEPENDS ON HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...
YES AND NO...
WAS THERE ANYTHING
SO DID YOU TAKE A LOOK AT THE MANSION ALREADY?
AFTER ALL,
WELL, DO YOU WANT TO COME SEARCH WITH US NOW?
COULD YOU BE ANY MORE CONFUSING?
WHA?
KEE KEE KEE
.....
IT'LL BE EASIER GOING ALONE
I'M GONNA CHECK OUT THE SWAMP
NO, NO
WE ARE STILL PART OF THE SAME TEAM SO WE MIGHT AS WELL ACT TOGETHER.

YES, SIR!
LET'S GO, MEN!
FINE, DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!
SIR...
HMPH!
WHA?
YOU'D ONLY GET IN THE WAY.


PERHAPS YOU SHOULD TAKE A BREATHER F-
LET'S GET MOVING!
I'M FINE...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

Y-YES, SIR!
TO RESCUE KIJUROU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
ALL OF US HAVE A DUTY.
DON'T BE STUPID! WE CAN'T AFFORD TO DILLY-DALLY HERE!
WASTING TIME...?
はいっ!!
SO LET'S STOP WASTING TIME!

お～っ!!
SEEMS TO ME THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BEEN WASTING ALL YOUR TIME AWAY!
……
はぁ～……
THE PRESIDENT, HIS SON TATSUKI,
AND EVEN THE DIRECTOR...
THEY'RE ALL A BUNCH OF...
SELF-CENTERED,
……
NARROW-MINDED CHUMPS!
THAT'S RIGHT!
……
Y-YOU'RE... THE MOST ABSENT-MINDED, SELF-INDULGENT ONE OUT OF THEM ALL...
?
MADAME

コォー

WHO CARES IF IT'S DRIED OUT OR NOT.
HUH?

THAT THE SECRET ROOM WOULD BE HIDDEN BELOW THIS WELL!
THERE'S NO WAY,
I MEAN...

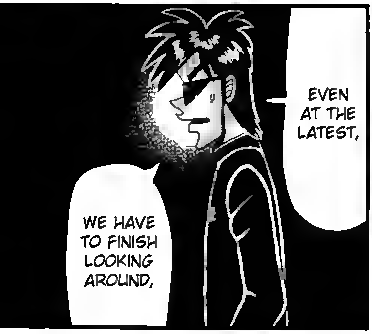
THIS WELL IS DRIED OUT.
IT'S JUST AS HE SAID.

EVEN IF HE DID IT AT THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT,
THERE'S JUST NO WAY,
HE'D HAVE TO GET A ROPE AND CLIMB DOWN THE WELL EVERY SINGLE TIME
IF THIS WELL WERE THE SECRET ENTRANCE,
THE CRIMINAL WOULD NEED TO DELIVER FOOD TO KIJUROU EVERY DAY.
IT'S JUST NOT POSSI-BLE!
THIS PLACE IS SURROUNDED BY HOMES!
JUST LOOK!
TO DO THAT FOR YEARS WITHOUT BEING FOUND OUT!
. . . . . .
YES...
ANYBODY COULD FIGURE THAT OUT IF THEY THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LITTLE...
HUH?
KEE KEE

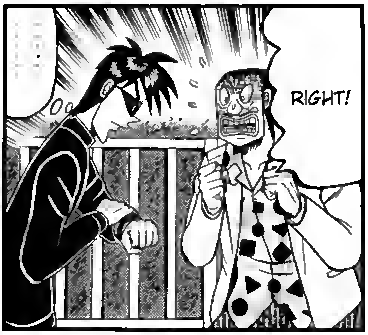
GIVES ME THE CREEP, I TELL YA!
MAN, WHAT'S UP WITH THAT KID?
ハサッ

LET'S GO.
WE SHOULD REACH THE SWAMP FROM THE EAST.
IF WE TAKE A RIGHT HERE,
IT'S AS OKAJIMA SAID.

R-
A DUTY TO SAVE KIJUROU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
WE HAVE A DUTY!


EVEN AT THE LATEST,
WE HAVE TO FINISH LOOKING AROUND,

IT'S 9:30.


RIGHT!

SO WE'LL LOOK FIRST,
AND DEDUCE LATER.

BY 12 O'CLOCK!

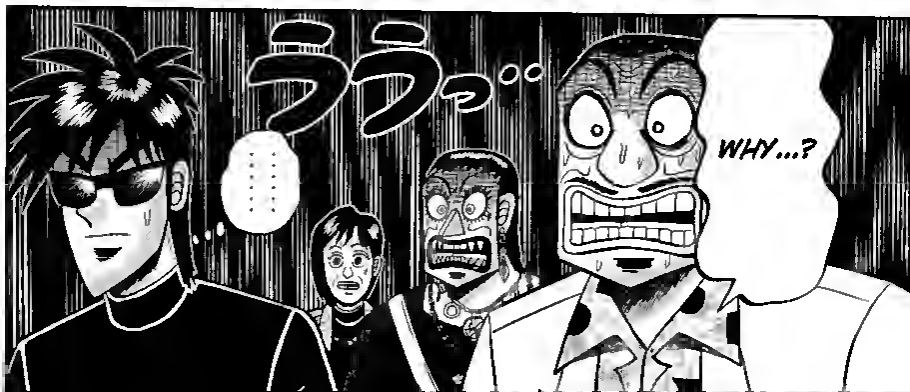
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
THERE COULD VERY WELL BE SOME-THING,
T-THIS IS IT! THIS IS THE PLACE!
THAT CAN UNRAVEL THE CRYPTIC MESSAGE,
HIDDEN SOME-WHERE AROUND HERE!
FIRST...

Treasure Swamp
WE WON'T GET ANYWHERE WITHOUT HAVING LOOKED AROUND THE KEY PLACES FIRST!

FOR A PLACE CONNECTED TO THE MESSAGE.
WE'LL START WITH A LIKELY CANDIDATE.
WELL, IF YOU THINK SO, THEN I CERTAINLY HOPE-
IT'S JUST ABOVE THESE STAIRS.
PERHAPS EVEN THE LIKELIEST POSSIBILITY!
THE LIKELI-EST?
AH!

At the treasure swamp that sees Buddha in his final moments
THE REAL PLACE THAT THE MESSAGE,
MIGHT HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO...
HUH?
AH!
IT'S HERE!
WHA?
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
IS DEFINITELY SUSPICIOUS!
THIS PLACE,
HE'S RIGHT!

THE GRAVE!
A GRAVE-YARD IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!?


ラララ…
……
WHY...?

WHAT'S A GRAVE DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
WHA...
Chapter 67 Sign
ZERO?

.....
AS YOU CAN TELL FROM THE NAMES,
黄井家之墓
清水家之墓
橋本家之墓
金子家之墓
THE PEOPLE WHO'RE BURIED HERE DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIAL CONNECTION TO THE HOJO FAMILY
JUST LOCALS WHO LIVED HERE LONG AGO .
MOST OF THESE GRAVE-STONES ARE QUITE OLD, MOSTLY SHOWA-ERA

THERE AREN'T ANY NEWER GRAVE-STONES
墓
NO WAIT,
PERHAPS THE OLDER ONES ARE DOWN HERE,
AND THE MORE RECENT GRAVES ARE UP THESE STAIRS?
AHHH!
HUH...?
ZERO!
Z-

仏陀の最期看取る宝沼で
ISN'T THIS MESSAGE THE SAME ONE...!?

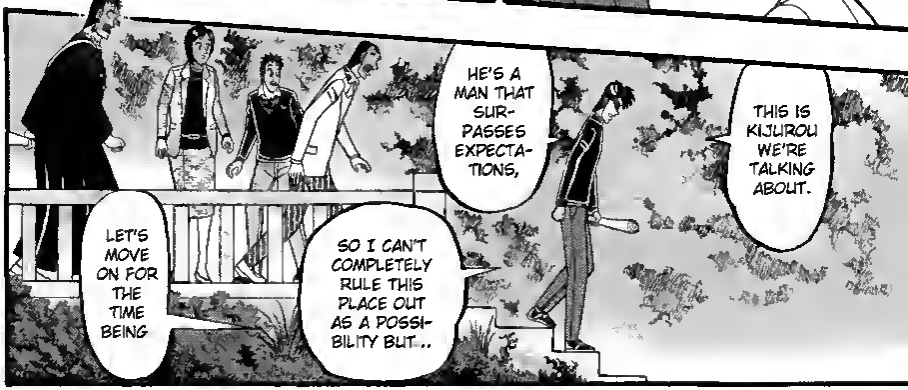
THERE COULD BE LIKE A SECRET SWITCH..
仏陀の
IS UNDER-NEATH HERE?
M-MAYBE THE SECRET ROOM,
ざわ..

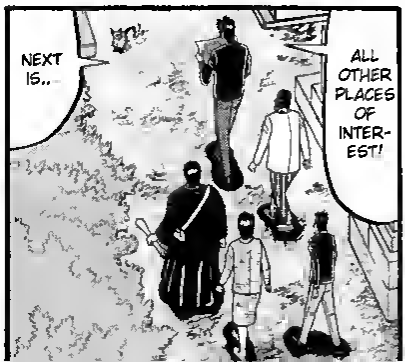
平成X年
四月九日 建立
THIS WAS PUT UP JUST 5 YEARS AGO.
ACCORDING TO THE INSCRIPTION,
……
Ooo.
HERE?
OR HERE!?
5 YEARS AGO?
THE SECRET MESSAGE,
THAT WE UNCOVERED AT YAMANASHI WAS PUT THERE OVER 30 YEARS AGO.
OHH…
IF THE ROOM WERE REALLY BELOW HERE, THAT'D MEAN HE BUILT THIS CONSPICUOUS GRAVESTONE 20 OR 30 YEARS AFTER BUILDING THE ROOM.
A SECRET ROOM TO STORE HIS FORTUNES.
KIJUROU HAD ALREADY BUILT, OR AT LEAST PLANNED FOR,
SO EVEN BACK THEN,

CARRYING AN EQUALLY CONSPICUOUS MESSAGE,
WHY WOULD SOMEONE BUILD SOMETHING SO CONSPICUOUS,

NOT THE LEAST BIT LIKELY.
THAT'S JUST,

THEN AGAIN...
ON TOP OF THE VERY ROOM YOU WANT TO KEEP HIDDEN?


LET'S MOVE ON FOR THE TIME BEING
SO I CAN'T COMPLETELY RULE THIS PLACE OUT AS A POSSIBILITY BUT...
HE'S A MAN THAT SURPASSES EXPECTATIONS,
THIS IS KIJUROU WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.


NEXT IS..
ALL OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST!

I WANT TO CHECK OUT,
WE HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE.

A PLACE JUST 5 MINUTES AWAY,
BY FOOT.
THE SHRINE!
AHHH!
WELL THIS IS A PRETTY LITTLE SHRINE.
LET'S GO
HUH?
NEXT PLACE,
IS JUST 10 MINUTES BY FOOT FROM HERE!!

THE ABAN-
DONED
VILLA!
AHH!
THIS SEEMS
LIKE A GOOD
CANDIDATE...
YOU COULD EASILY
BUILD A SECRET
BASEMENT ROOM
IN A HOUSE LIKE
THI-
AHH!

HM...
COMING OUT FROM THE BACK?
WHY'RE THERE PEOPLE,
LOOK!
W-W-W...
THE PRESIDENT MUST'VE ALSO THOUGHT THIS PLACE WAS SUSPICIOUS,
AND SENT SOME OF HIS MEN TO INVESTIGATE.
AHH!
WE BETTER HURRY UP AND LOOK AROUND TOO!
NO,
WE'RE GETTING BEATEN TO THE CHASE!
T-THAT'S NOT GOOD!
LET'S MOVE ON.
WHA?
B...
BUT ZERO!

I MEAN,
YOU'RE BEING A LITTLE TOO HASTY?
DON'T YOU THINK,
ZERO WAIT!
IT WON'T MATTER HOW HARD WE SCRUTI-NIZE EACH PLACE.
BUT MAYBE WE OUGHT TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT EACH PLACE...?
I KNOW YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF PLACES TO CHECK OUT,
IS AN EPIPHANY!
HUH!?
WHAT KIJUROU WANTS FROM US...
WHAT?

AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
THE KEY TO SOLVING THE MESSAGE,
ISN'T SOMETHING THAT REQUIRES US TO EXAMINE,
EVERY LAST DETAIL OF EACH PLACE,
BUT RATHER INSTINCTIVE!
A SIMPLE CHANGE IN PERSPECTIVE THAT SUDDENLY ILLUMINATES THE OBSCURED MEANING!
ONCE YOU KNOW IT,
IT SHOULD MAKE YOU GO, "OHHH, IT WAS ACTUALLY SOMETHING THAT SIMPLE? HUH."
THAT'S WHY,
ALL WE HAVE TO DO FOR NOW IS LOOK!
THE NEXT PLACE IS HERE!
AHH!

THIS CAVE RIGHT HERE!
WHA...?
SERIOUSLY!?

THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S POSSIBLE!
NO, NO, NO!
YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS A POSSIBLE LOCATION OF THE HIDDEN ROOM...?
HOW WOULD YOU EXPECT WORKERS TO LUG TOOLS AND OTHER HEAVY MACHINERY THROUGH HERE AND THEN DIG A SECRET ROOM?
THIS OPENING IS JUST BARELY BIG ENOUGH FOR A PERSON TO CRAWL UNDER.
JUST LOOK!
.....
PRO-BABLY.
TO BUILD A ROOM IN THIS SMALL CAVE!
IT'S JUST NOT POSSI-BLE.

KEE KEE KEE
AREN'T AFRAID OF HUMANS IN THE LEAST BIT.
THESE CATS AROUND HERE,
AH, FINALLY THOSE BUGGERS ARE LEAVING ME ALONE
FROM THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE
WELL?
FOUND ANY NEW HINTS?
KEE KEE
NO... NOTHING AT ALL.
THAT'S WHAT I FIGURED,

SURE THE MEOWING CAN SEEM CUTE TO SOME,
BUT I HONESTLY FIND IT ANNOYING.
AFTER ALL, THIS IS THE FINAL BATTLE BETWEEN,
YOU AND ME...
A MATCH TO SEE WHO'LL CRACK THE CODE FIRST!

SO THE LAST THING I NEED,
IS A BUNCH OF ANNOYING CATS TO DISTRACT ME. I'D WANT TO SHUT OFF ALL OTHER NOISE IF I COULD.
.....
I HAVE TO SAY,
YOU'RE QUITE DISADVAN-TAGED IN THAT POINT AT LEAST.

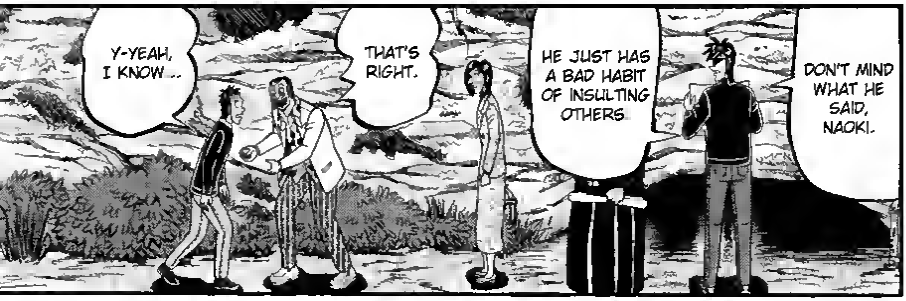
ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY THAT WE'RE-
KEE KEE KEE
HUH?
BECAUSE YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY NOISE EVEN MORE UNINTELLIGABLE THAN A CAT!
BUT ONCE YOU LOOK AT IT,
YEAH, I THOUGHT THIS PLACE WAS SUSPICIOUS TOO,
AH RIGHT, RIGHT. THIS CAVE...
AGH!
HEY, I WAS TALKING TO YOU! WAS YOUR COMMENT JUST NOW A-
SEE YA THEN.
SORRY, SORRY. GUESS I SAID A LITTLE TOO MUCH.
FOR THERE TO BE A ROOM HIDDEN HERE.
THE OPENING'S JUST TOO SMALL,

HEY COME BACK HERE!
AHH!
HAVE FUN TAKING CARE OF YOUR CATS, ZERO!
AH-

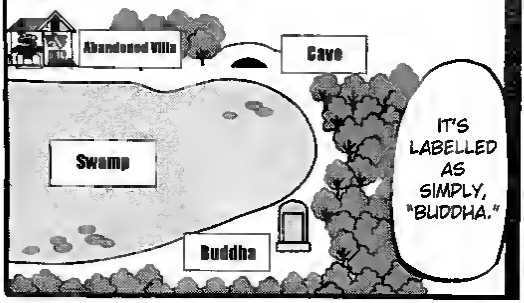
YOU'D BE THE LONER-TYPE WHO'D HANG AROUND AWAY FROM THE CROWD...
I NEVER THOUGHT,
WHAT'S THE MATTER, NAOKI?
OH, I KNOW!

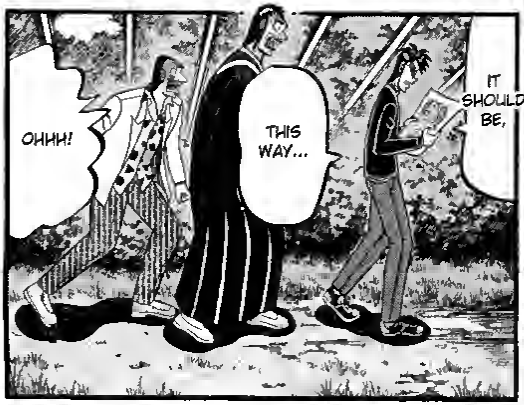
AGH!
HEY!
IS BECAUSE YOU REALIZE YOU'RE NOTHING BUT AN ANNOYING HINDRANCE!
YEAH, I KNOW THAT THE REASON WHY YOU'RE STANDING BACK HERE,
YOU KNOW...?

JUST TELLING IT LIKE HOW IT IS
DON'T BLAME ME.
YOU'VE GOT ONE ROTTEN PERSONALITY, YOU LITTLE BRAT!
KEE KEE


Y-YEAH, I KNOW...
THAT'S RIGHT.
HE JUST HAS A BAD HABIT OF INSULTING OTHERS.
DON'T MIND WHAT HE SAID, NAOKI.

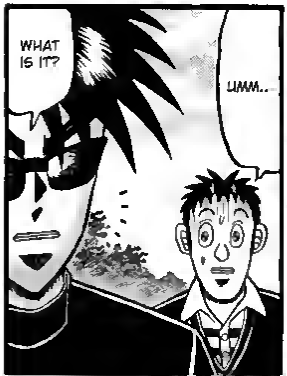
ON THE MAP...
THERE'S JUST ONE LAST PLACE I WANT TO CHECK OUT.
WELL LET'S MOVE ON.


Abandoned Villa
Cave
Swamp
Buddha
IT'S LABELLED AS SIMPLY, "BUDDHA."


OHHH!
THIS WAY...
IT SHOULD BE,

. . . . . .

ALRIGHT!
THE FINAL PLACE, EH?


WHAT IS IT?
UMM..

AHHH!
I HAD THIS F-
WASN'T BECAUSE I THOUGHT I'D BE A BOTHER BUT...
THE REAL REASON WHY I WAS HANGING BACK FROM THE CAVE,
Z-
ZERO, LOOK!
IT'S THE SAME THING WE SAW BACK IN THE MANSION!
HURRY!
IT'S THAT THING AGAIN!
IT'S...
AH!

BUDDHA'S NIRVANA!

Chapter 68 Deep Breath

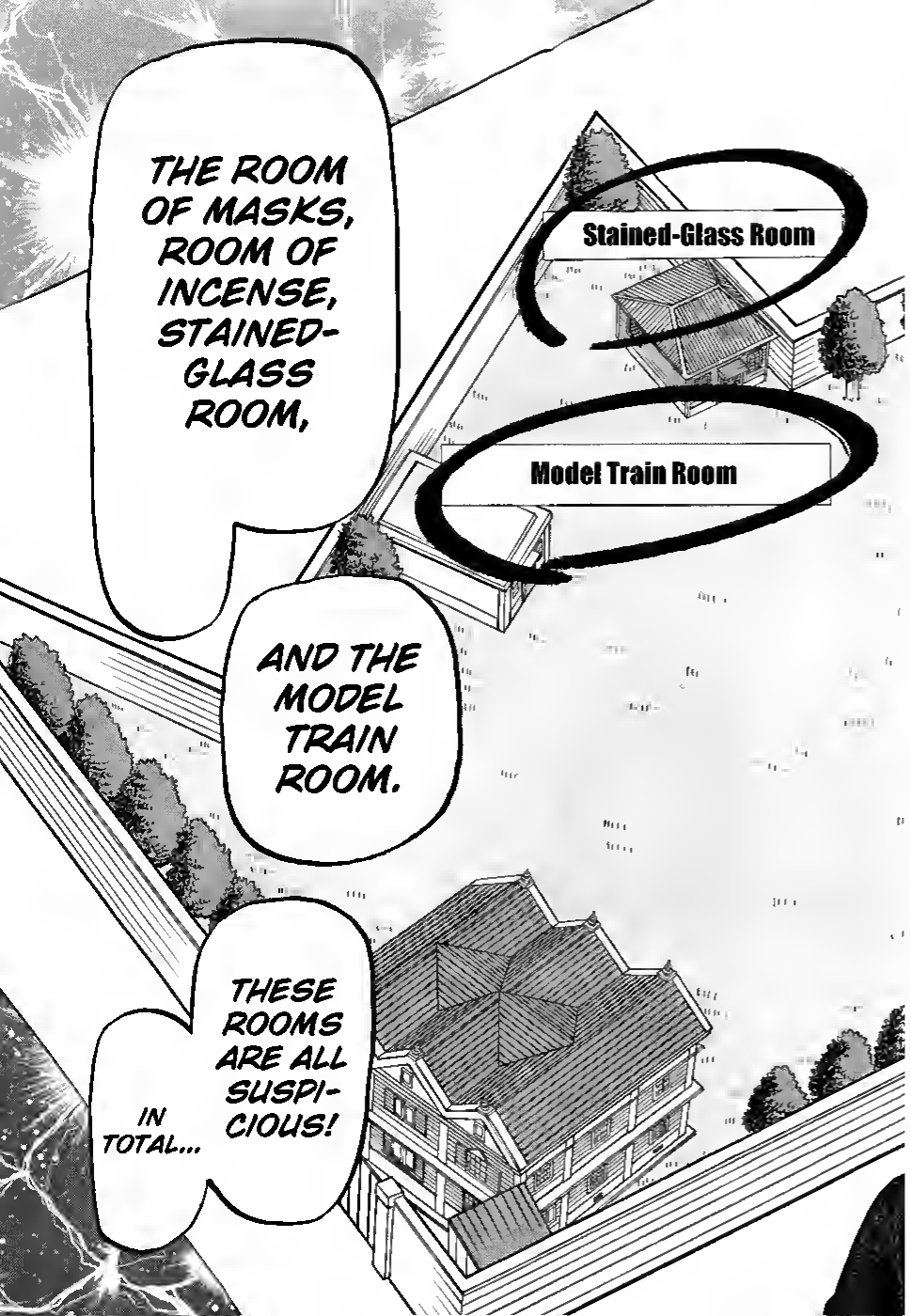
BUDDHA'S NIRVANA!?
WHAT... DO YOU THINK, ZERO?
IT'S THE SAME PAINTING AGAIN!
THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING TO IT NO MATTER HOW YOU THINK ABOUT IT!

IS THERE A SECRET ENTRANCE HIDDEN AROUND HERE...?
EVEN IF THERE *WERE*,
IT'S NOT GOING TO BE SOMETHING YOU CAN FIND EASILY.
SUEZAKI
THE PRESIDENT PROBABLY HAD HIS MEN SEARCH THIS STELE THOROUGHLY,
BUT,
THEY DIDN'T FIND SUCH A THING, AFTER ALL.
AH...

AS FOR THE REST OF THIS RESORT TOWN,
RIGHT, YOU HAVE A POINT...
CONSIDERING HOW IT'S REGULARLY OCCUPIED AND FULL OF COMPANY-EMPLOYEES,
THE POSSI-BILITY OF SOMEONE HIDING KIJUROU SOMEWHERE AMONG THE HOMES,
WHILE BRINGING FOOD FOR OVER 3 YEARS IN SECRET IS... HARD TO IMAGINE, AT BEST.
THEN, THE ONLY PLACES LEFT AS LIKELY POSSIBILITIES,
SINCE WE'RE SHORT ON TIME,
WE'LL JUST DISMISS THAT UNLIKELY POSSIBILITY.
FOR WHERE KIJUROU IS CONFINED...

THE CEMETERY,
LOCATED AROUND THE SWAMP!
ABAN-DONED VILLA,
SHRINE,
CAVE,
THESE 5 LOCA-TIONS ARE SUS-PICIOUS,
AND THIS PAINTING!
IN ADDITION
Shrine
Cemetery

Abandoned Villa
Cave
Swamp
Buddha
Well
Resort Housos
Resort Houses
ARE THESE FIVE PLACES,

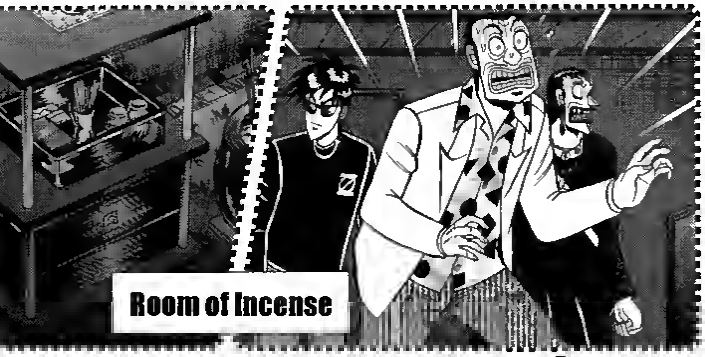

THE ROOM OF MASKS, ROOM OF INCENSE, STAINED-GLASS ROOM,
Stained-Glass Room
Model Train Room
AND THE MODEL TRAIN ROOM.
THESE ROOMS ARE ALL SUSPI-CIOUS!
IN TOTAL...

TO THESE 4 SPECIAL ROOMS IN THE MANSION GROUNDS!
Room of Incense
Room of Masks

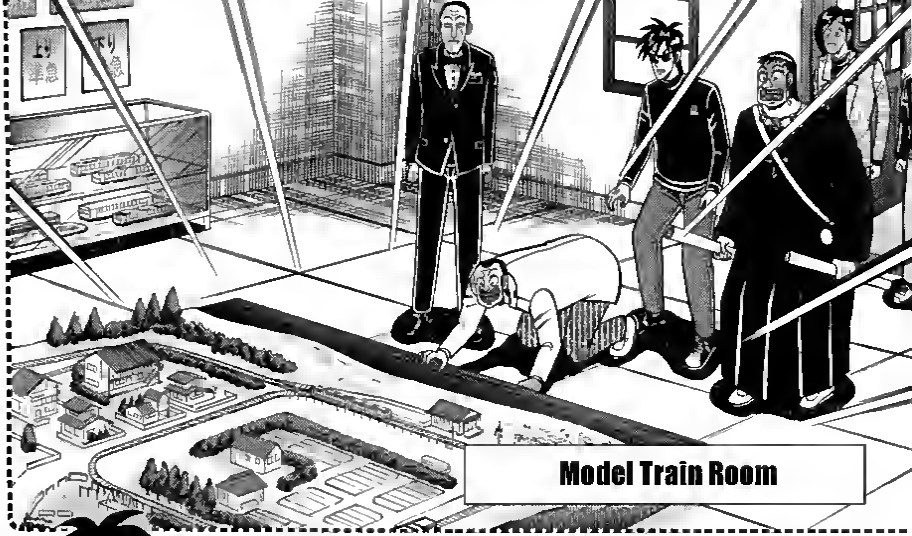
THAT'S NINE PLACES!
SOME-WHERE AMONG THESE 9 PLACES,
IS A HINT THAT'LL LEAD ALONG THE RIGHT PATH.
IF WE CAN JUST FIND IT,
THEN...
WE'LL FINALLY REACH THE TREASURE ROOM THAT KIJUROU IS CONFINED IN...

AND WE CAN RESCUE HIM!
RELEASE HIM AT LAST!
AHH!
NINE PLACES...
BUT WHICH ONE?
WHICH PLACE CONTAINS,
THE CRITICAL KEY OR HINT...?
IT HAS TO BE SOMEWHERE!

BUT WHAT COULD THAT HINT BE...?
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP...
の……!?

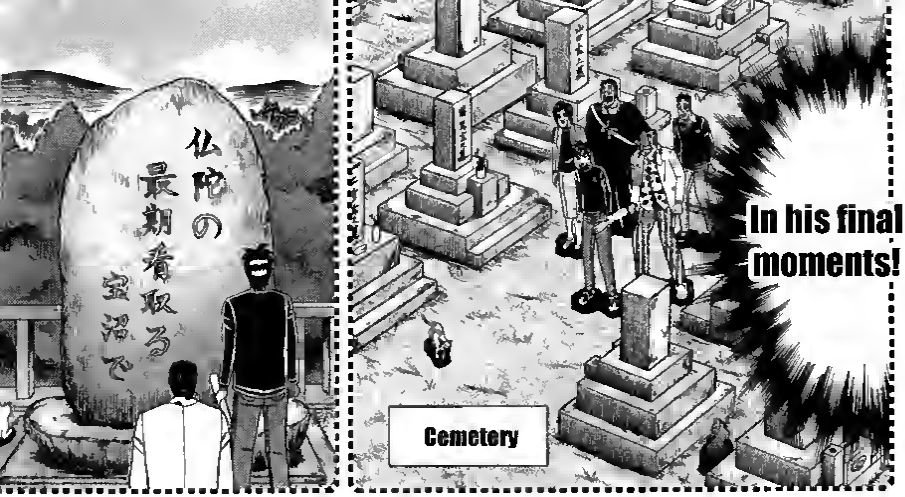


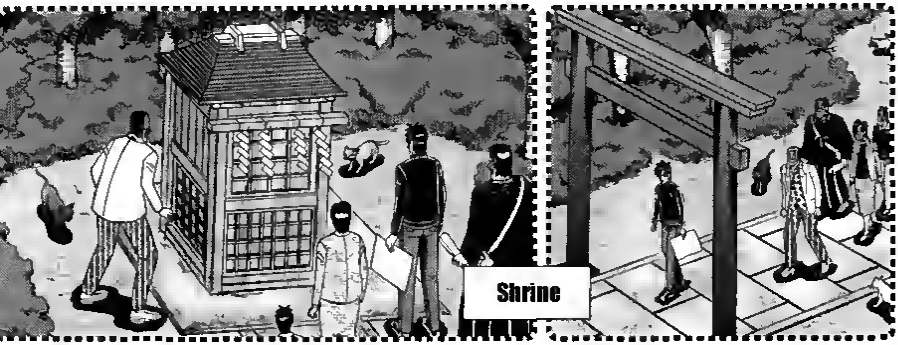
That sees Budha,


Model Train Room

Zig-Zagged Walls

Old Well


仏陀の
最期看取る
宝沼で
In his final moments!
Cemetery


Shrine

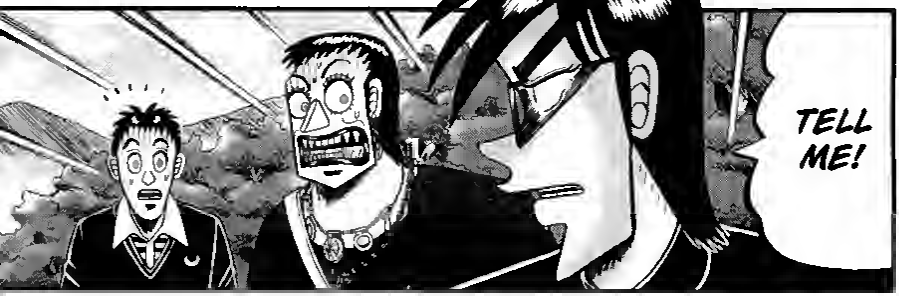
IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS!
Abandoned Villa

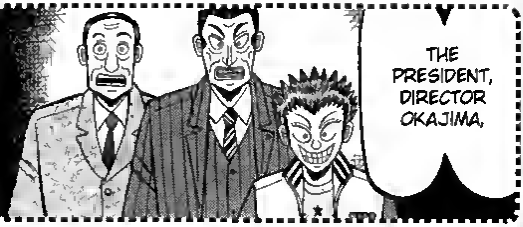
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP!!!

ZERO...?
NAOKI.
HUH?

BEFORE SUEZAKI GOT ALL WORKED UP ABOUT THIS STELE?
WHAT WAS IT THAT YOU WANTED TO TELL ME,
IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT,

I WOULDN'T WANT TO MENTION IT AND RUIN YOUR TRAIN OF THOUGHT.
IT'S PROBABLY JUST ME IMAGINING THINGS.
NAOKI,
NO, IT'S NOTHING.
YOU HAVEN'T TRIED MENTIONING IT TO ME AGAIN.


TELL ME!


THE PRESIDENT, DIRECTOR OKAJIMA,

WE'RE ALL STUCK RIGHT NOW!
AND EVEN ME...

HUH?
TATSUKI,

KIJUROU'S TRUE INTENT!
THAT'S WHY,
JUST SPEAK YOUR MIND.
OR IF IT'S SOME-THING MINOR.
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU THINK YOU'RE JUST IMAGINING THINGS,

NONE OF US ARE CLOSE TO GRASPING,

LEND ME YOUR AID!
PLEASE, NAOKI!

BUT I GUESS I'LL SAY IT ANYWAYS.
I'M NOT TOO SURE ABOUT IT...
WELL,
O-OF COURSE..

WHEN WE WERE AT THE CAVE'S ENTRANCE...
EARLIER,
THE REASON WHY I STAYED AWAY,
HUH?
BECAUSE I COULD HEAR A WEIRD, UNSETTLING NOISE.

IT WAS A SORT OF... BUZZING SOUND?
WHA?
SOUND? I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING.
HUH?
ME NEITHER.
ざわ..
ooo
LIKE A FLY OR A BEE?
SOME INSECT?
YOU SURE IT WASN'T.
ざわ..
ざわ..
ざわ..
AHH!

第69話 待望
Chapter 69 Long-Awaited Find

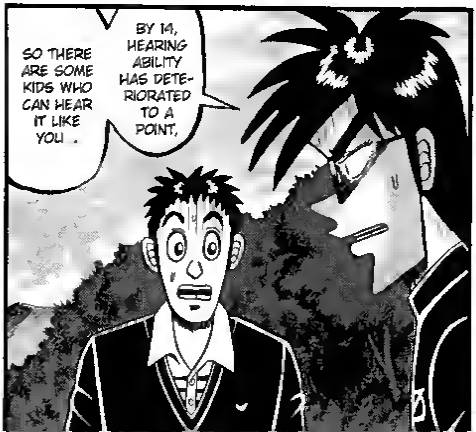
I COULD HEAR A WEIRD, UNSETTLING NOISE.
IT WAS A SORT OF... BUZZING SOUND?
...
LIKE I SAID,
I MIGHT'VE BEEN IMAGINING IT THOUGH..
NO..
I THINK WHAT YOU MIGHT HAVE HEARD...
AHH!

AHH!
AH!

HUH?
WAS A HIGH-PITCH FREQUENCY!

THAT ONLY CHILDREN CAN HEAR.
WHICH CAN EMIT HIGH FREQUENCY SOUNDS,

THERE ARE DEVICES,
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHA?


SO THERE ARE SOME KIDS WHO CAN HEAR IT LIKE YOU.
BY 14, HEARING ABILITY HAS DETERIORATED TO A POINT,

AND IT'S USED TO WARD OFF LOITERING YOUNG PEOPLE
THE DEVICE IS CALLED, "THE MOSQUITO,"

BUT...
OH...
AND SOME WHO CAN'T!
THERE AREN'T ANY KIDS THAT'D HANG AROUND THIS PLACE.
WHAT WOULD THAT BE DOING BY THE CAVE?
HUH?
WHO'D BE WARDED OFF BY A HF-SOUND EMITTER.
KIDS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES,
I DON'T THINK ANYBODY REALLY HANGS AROUND THAT CAVE, NOT JUST KIDS EITHER.
YOU CAN SEE THEM LOITERING ALL AROUND THE SWAMP...

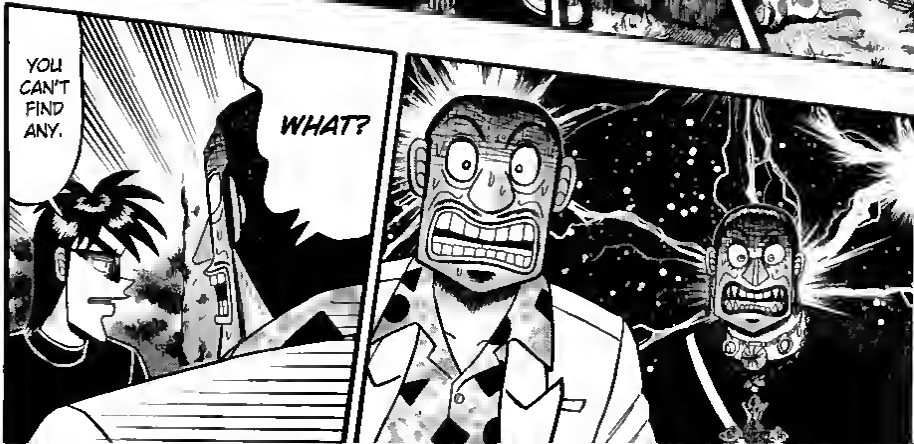
CATS!
HIGH FREQUENCY SOUNDS ARE OFTEN USED,
IN JAPAN,
WHA?

THAT'S WHY,
THE DEVICE MUST BE SET UP SOMEWHERE AROUND THE CAVE'S ENTRANCE.
IN THIS CASE,
TO PREVENT CATS FROM ENTERING AND DIRTYING UP PLACES.
THE CATS THAT WERE FOLLOWING TATSUKI SUDDENLY TURNED AROUND.
BUT...
YOU'RE RIGHT!
AHH!
SUE-ZAKI
WHAT DOES IT MATTER IF THE CATS STAY AWAY FROM THE CAVE OR NOT?
くわっ!
SO WHAT!?

LOOK!
HUH?
IN THIS SCENE,
OF BUDDHA ON HIS DEATHBED...

GEESE,
ELE-PHANTS,
ANIMALS!
DOGS, PHOE-NIXES,
BOARS,
PEA-COCKS,
BUT ALSO,
NOT ONLY HAVE HUMANS COME TO MOURN,
PANTHERS, TIGERS, RABBITS, FOXES,
CROWS, MONKEYS,
LIONS, DRAGONS, SNAKES, TURTLES,
DESPITE ALL THE DIFFERENT ANIMALS WHO'VE COME TO SEE BUDDHA IN HIS DEATHBED,
IT'S CURIOUS TO NOTE...
AND SO THE LIST GOES ON...
HAWKS, MICE,
HORSES, COWS, CAMELS, DEERS,

THAT THERE ARE NO CATS!


YOU CAN'T FIND ANY.
WHAT?

IT'S A WELL-KNOWN STORY,
THAT THE CAT DID NOT MOURN BUDDHA'S DETH
KEEP-ING THIS FACT,
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
AND KIJUROU'S MESSAGE IN MIND
IF YOU COMBINE THE TWO,
A POSSIBLE THEORY,
EMERGES!
THE MOST APPROPRIATE PLACE TO WATCH BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS,
WOULD BE...
AH...
JUST THINK.

THE CAVE IN WHICH CATS NEVER ENTER!
B-BUT ZERO!
THAT MAKES PERFECT SENSE!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
AAHHH!

I KNOW
I'M NOT SERIOUSLY EXPECTING,
IS JUST NOT POSSIBLE!
IN THAT TINY CAVE,
MAKING A SECRET UNDERGROUND ROOM,
THERE'S DEFI-NITELY SOME-THING THERE!
BUT...
TO FIND KIJUROU INSIDE THAT CAVE.
YES!
HAHA!
YES, YES, YES!
OHHHH!
SOMETHING IMPORTANT IS INSIDE THAT CAVE WITHOUT A DOUBT!

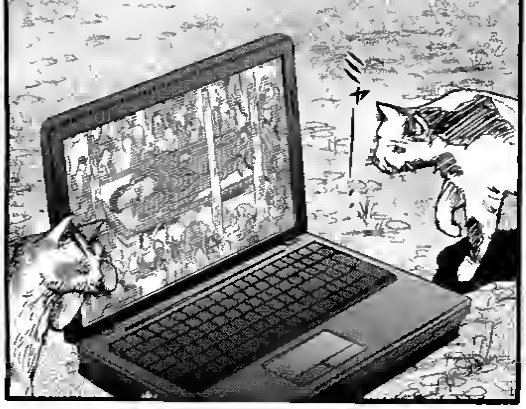
WOOHOO!
SO LET'S HEAD TO THE CAVE RIGHT AWAY!
BOO-YA!
CLASSIC ZERO AT HIS BEST!
THE MYSTERY'S ALMOST SOLVED!
AND WE'LL BE AT THE GOAL LINE!
JUST A LITTLE FURTHER.

Mean-while...
TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS, HUH...
AT THE...
UGHH...
AGHH, GET OFF!
DAMN CATS!

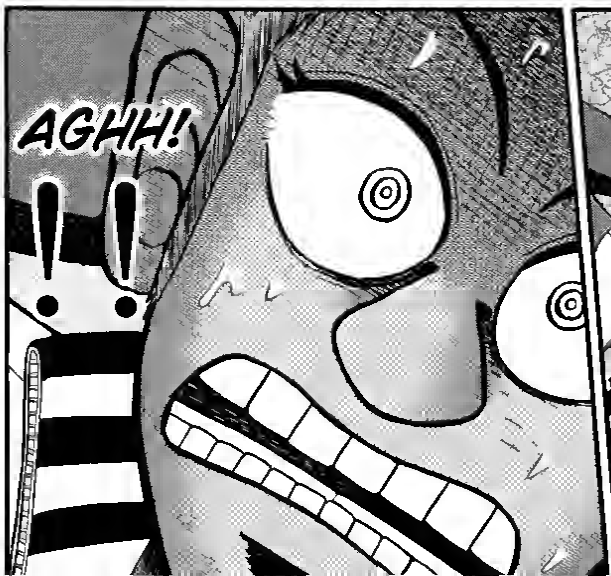
ZERO?
FOUND IT!
WAS HIDDEN INSIDE THIS SMALL STONE LANTERN.
TO KEEP THE CATS AWAY,
THE HF-SOUND EMITTER.
LOOKS LIKE IT WASN'T JUST YOUR IMAGINATION AFTER ALL, NAOKI
The Cave

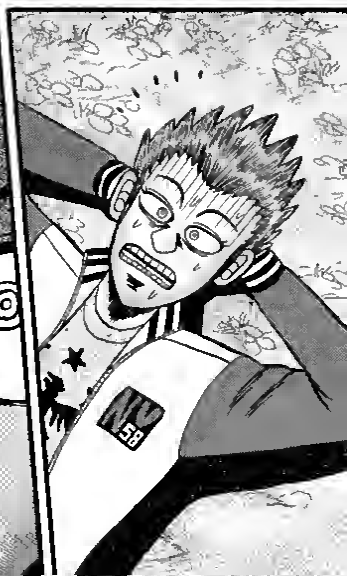
NOW THEN...
IT WAS NOTHING.
YOU HEARD CORRECTLY.
THANKS.
JUNKO.
LET'S GET MOVING!
HERE!
PASS ME THE LIGHT!
HM...

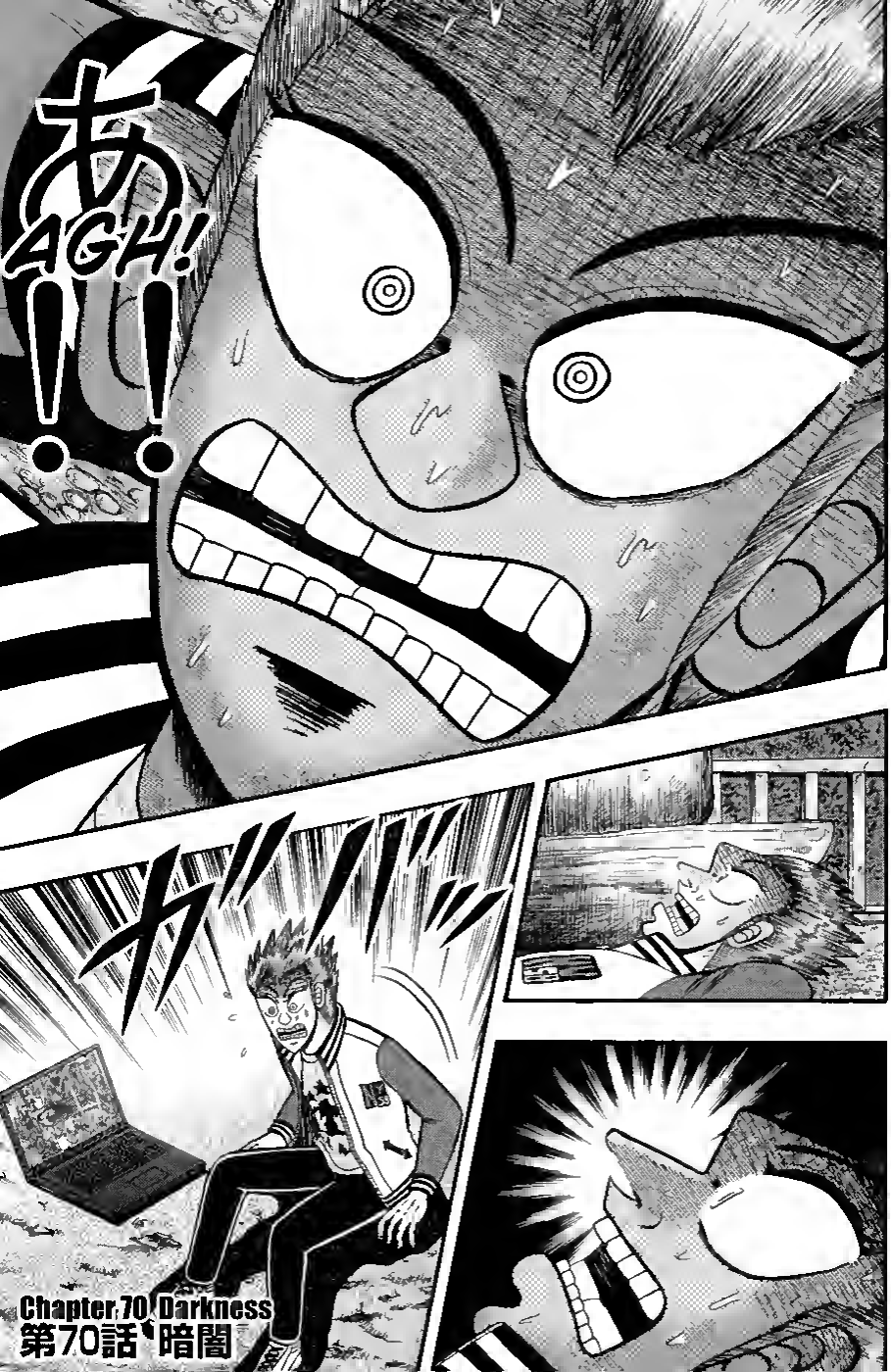
WILL THERE BE SNAKES, GHOSTS,
OR TREASURE INSIDE?
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT!
SIGH...
仏陀の



AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS







Chapter 70 Darkness
第70話 暗闇

OF COURSE!
AH!
THAT'S IT!
THE CAVE!

AAGGHHH!

THEN...
THAT MEANS THERE MUST BE SOMETHING IN THAT CAVE THE CATS STAY AWAY FROM!
IN BUDDHA'S NIRVANA PAINTING!
THERE AREN'T ANY CATS,

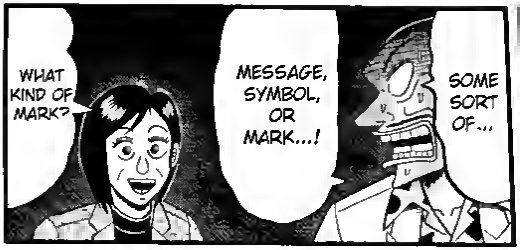
TO SURPASS ZERO!
!!
FINALLY! NOW'S MY CHANCE,
YES!
!

ZERO
SEE ANYTHING YET?
JUST A LITTLE FURTHER
THE NARROW ENTRANCE
OPENS UP HERE,
STOP CRAWLING
AND WE CAN,

HMM, THIS PLACE IS WIDER THAN I EXPECTED...!
AHH!
THIS CAVE WOULD HAVE SUCH AN OPEN SPACE INSIDE!?
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT,
YOU'VE ALL GOT CELL PHONES, RIGHT?
TAKE'EM OUT!
THIS CAVE IS HIDING SOMETHING FOR SURE, ZERO!
THIS IS DEFINITELY THE PLACE!

AND WE CAN FINALLY STAND!

WE'LL SEARCH THIS CAVE.
USING THE BACK-LIGHTS!
.....


WHAT KIND OF MARK?
MESSAGE, SYMBOL, OR MARK...!
SOME SORT OF...

WELL... I'D IMAGINE IT'S... UMM...
WHAT KIND OF MARK?

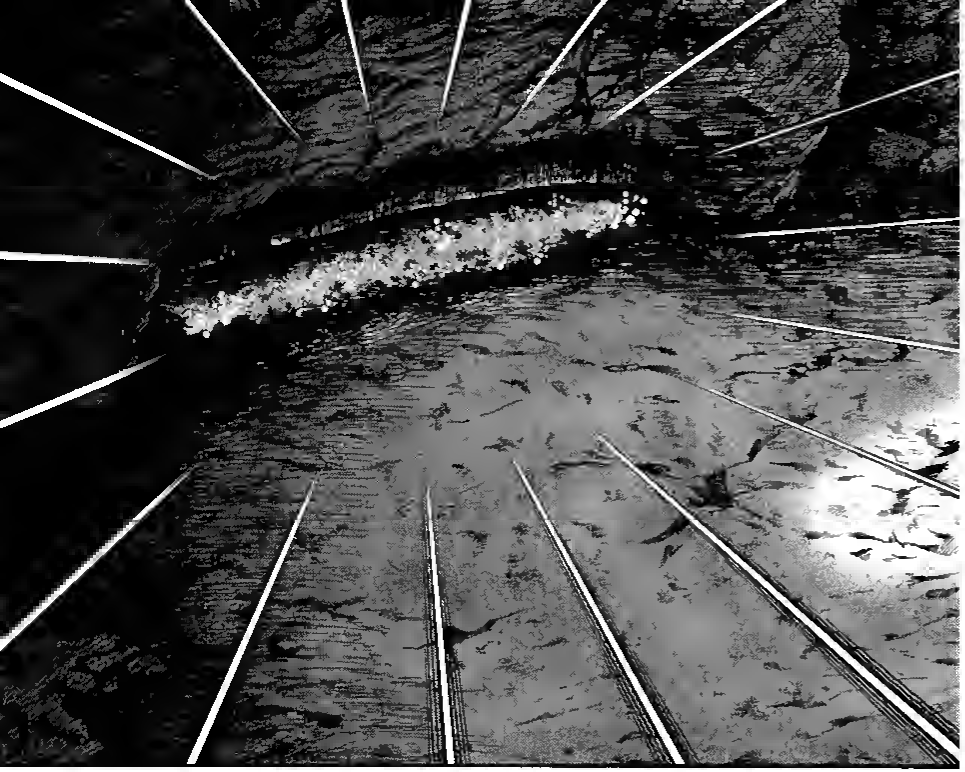
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHAT!?
SEARCH FOR WHAT, THOUGH ...?

ビュッ
ドゴッ
AHH!
HOW THE HELL SHOULD I KNOW!?

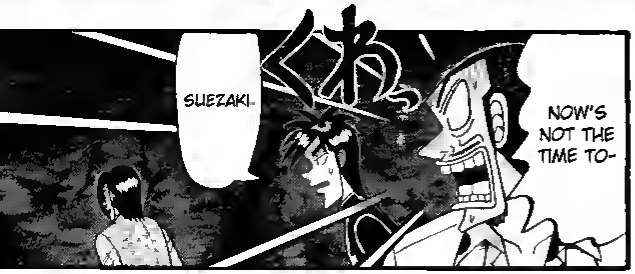
OR...
IS IT JUST ME,
?

HUH?

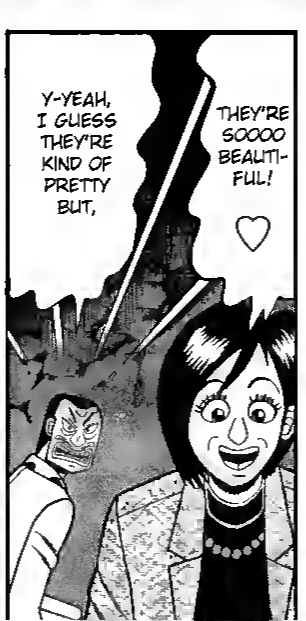
?
?
?

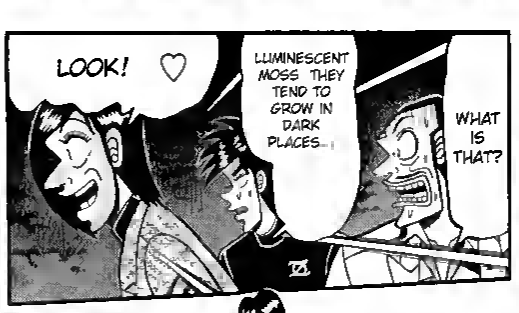


HUH?
IS THAT SPOT GLOWING?

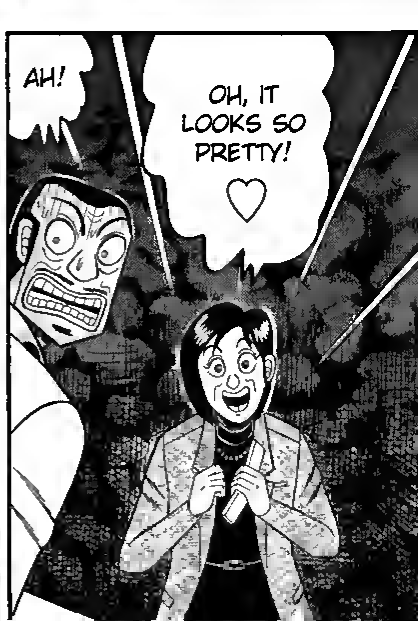

SUEZAKI-
NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO-

WHAT?


Y-YEAH, I GUESS THEY'RE KIND OF PRETTY BUT,
THEY'RE SOOOO BEAUTIFUL!


LOOK!
LUMINESCENT MOSS THEY TEND TO GROW IN DARK PLACES...
WHAT IS THAT?

WOW!
AREN'T THEY LOVELY?


AH!
OH, IT LOOKS SO PRETTY!

IT'S IN THE SHAPE OF A PERSON!
THE MOSS LOOKS LIKE THE SHADOW OF A PERSON LYING DOWN...
HUH?

IN OTHER WORDS...
THIS MOSS COULD VERY WELL SIGNIFY THAT MAN...

さとり大王
ゆうま
ゆうま

ゆうま
THE FIGURE OF BUDDHA,
ON HIS DEATH BED!
Y...
AH!

WHAT'S THAT NOISE!?
ゴゴゴゴゴ
ズズズ
YOU'RE RIGHT, IT DOES LOOK LIKE THAT!
ガバッ

TATSUKI?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
AHH!
HMPH!
ゆら
SO YOU FIGURED IT OUT TOO?
HEH

THE ONLY LIKELY THING THAT THE "TREASURE SWAMP,"
IN KIJUROU'S MESSAGE COULD HAVE REFERRED TO...
AT THE TREASURE SWAMP THAT SEES BUDDHA IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS
IT JUST CAME TO ME A LITTLE EARLIER
AFTER A LOT OF AIMLESS WANDERING,
.....
AHH!
IT'S DEFINITELY MADE TO DELIBERATELY RESEMBLE BUDDHA LYING ON HIS DEATH BED!
JUST LOOK AT THIS MOSS IN THE SHAPE OF A HUMAN.
IS THIS CAVE!
LIKE ANOTHER MESSAGE OR SOME-THING?
.....
THERE'S SOMETHING UNDERNEATH THAT MOSS?
D-DOES THAT MEAN...
ZERO!

HUH?
I'M GOING TO TRY LYING DOWN FIRST.
NO...
MAYBE WE SHOULD TEAR THE MOSS OFF?
I'M GOING TO TRY LYING DOWN LIKE THE SLEEPING BUDDHA.
LYING DOWN JUST LIKE THAT,
I'M GOING TO TRY,
THE BUDDHA HAD HIS HEAD POINTED NORTH AND HIS FACE LOOKING WEST.
ON HIS DEATH BED,
TO ALIGN MYSELF WITH THE BUDDHA!

LET'S SEE...
IT WAS A STRAIGHT TUNNEL FROM THE OPENING TO HERE,
AND SINCE THE MOSS IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE OPENING,
NORTH SHOULD BE THIS WAY,
AND...
WEST SHOULD BE...
THIS WAY.
NOW WHAT CAN I SEE BY LYING LIKE THIS. HM...
パァ
HUH?
パァ

〔9巻(かん)につづく〕

TRANSLATED BY LOX

編集部では、この作品に対する皆様のご意見・ご感想をお待ちしております。
また『講談社コミックス』にまとめてほしい作品がありましたら、編集部までお知らせください。
〈あて先〉
〒112-8001 東京都文京区音羽2-12-21 講談社
週刊少年マガジン編集部「少年マガジンKC」係
なお、お送りいただいたお手紙・おハガキは、ご記入いただいた個人情報を含めて
著者にお渡しすることがありますので、あらかじめご了解のうえ、お送りください。

★この物語はフィクションであり、実在の人物・団体・出来事などとは一切関係ありません。

作品初出／週刊少年マガジン2012年第49号から2013年第7号

講談社コミックス デラックス KCDX3409

賭博覇王伝 零 ギャン鬼編⑧

2013年 4月17日 第1刷発行(定価はカバーに表示してあります)

著 者 福本伸行
©Nobuyuki Fukumoto 2013

発行者 清水保雅
発行所 株式会社 講談社
〒112-8001 東京都文京区音羽2-12-21
電話番号 編集部 東京(03)5395-3459
販売部 東京(03)5395-3608
業務部 東京(03)5395-3603
印刷所 株式会社廣済堂
本文製版所 株式会社二葉写真製版
製本所 株式会社国宝社
講談社

●本書のコピー、スキャン、デジタル化等の無断複製は著作権法上での例外を除き禁じられています。
本書を代行業者等の第三者に依頼してスキャンやデジタル化することはたとえ個人や家庭内の利用でも
著作権法違反です。
●落丁本・乱丁本は購入書店名をご記入のうえ、小社業務部宛にお送りください。送料小社負担にてお取り
替えいたします。なお、この本についてのお問い合わせは週刊少年マガジン編集部宛にお願いいたします。

N.D.C.726 190p 19cm Printed in Japan ISBN978-4-06-376809-1

KCDX
賭博覇王伝
ゼロ
ギャン鬼
ZERO
サイコロに
文字が……
新たなヒントに零とタツキ、
ついに閃く!
暗号が示す衝撃の真相とは!?
そして、喜十郎監禁場所の手がかりを
見つけるのは、零か? タツキか??★
第9巻 2013年5月17日(金)発売!!